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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

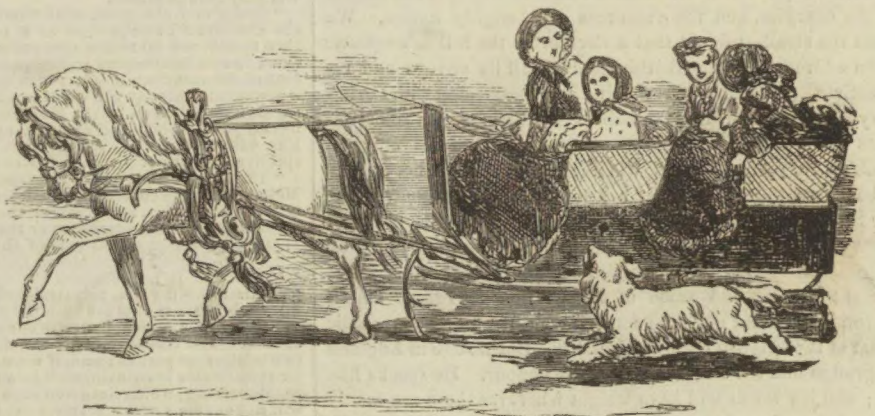
## THE ALLIED FLEETS IN THE EUXINE.

THE British and French fleets have at last entered the Black Sea. The Emperor of Russia has no longer all the "material guarantees" to himself. The new phrase which he introduced into the popular parlance of Europe has received an interpretation of which he did not imagine it to be susceptible. The nations that are determined to uphold their independence, and the civilisation of the world, against Muscovite aggression and barbarism, have also determined to have a "material guarantee." Every honest politician had, of course, a moral certainty that the Czar would not be allowed to dictate his own terms, or cut and carve the map of Europe at his pleasure; but the Czar himself set the example of preferring "material guarantees" to moral certainties, and he will not be surprised that others should imitate him. "Material guarantee," in the sense in which the Emperor Nicholas employed it, is, doubtless, a very fine phrase. A pickpocket, diving his hand into his neighbour's waistcoat, and abstracting his watch or his purse, might allege that the article thus appropriated was but a "material guarantee" to prevent his endurance of the pangs of hunger, or his lingering death from starvation. Society, however, even in Russia and Kamschatka, does not recognize such logic—and calls the forcible seizure of "material guarantees" of this description by a very ugly name—and gives it, when it can catch the offender, a very ugly, but a very just, punishment. The morality of the Russian seizure of the Danubian Principalities was exactly on a par with that of the pickpocket, with this difference, that, judged of by its results, it was infinitely more wicked and mischievous. The swell-mobsmen does not usually calculate a loss of human life among the contingencies of his evil-doing; even the burglar and highwayman, though he may make up his mind to homicide as an

unhappy eventuality consequent upon his forcible seizure of the "material guarantees" that it pleases him to exact, does not count upon the loss of thousands, or even of hundreds, or of scores of lives, as likely to result from the war which he declares against society. If he did, it is possible that he would relent and amend his ways. Not so merciful and so considerate are the greedy and irresponsible despots who covet the territories of their neighbours, and exact "material guarantees" for the possession of that which they have not the shadow of a right to claim. But there are two sorts of material guarantees; and when society, by the agency of its police and gaolers, locks up, and prevents from doing further injury, the felonious misappropriator of other people's goods, it takes the body of the delinquent as its guarantee against his persistency in ill-doing. Tardily, and to a limited extent, this is the course which has been adopted by Great Britain and France in their naval occupation of the Black Sea. This act, which was partially accomplished on the 30th of December, will convince the Emperor of Russia, if he were not convinced before—that the allies of Turkey are in earnest. A finer and a stronger fleet than that under the French and British flags, now in possession of the Euxine, never put to sea in any period of the world's history;

and we may add, without exaggeration, that a force more thoroughly animated by a sense of high moral duty, and more cordially united on the great objects to be pursued, was never before employed for purposes of warfare.

The effect of this proceeding upon the mind of the Emperor of Russia remains to be ascertained. If it please him to consider it a declaration of war, he is of course at liberty to do so; and he will recall his Ambassadors at the Courts of St. James's and the Tuileries, and proceed to such active hostilities as are within his power. But he is under no such necessity. If he be at length convinced of that which is quite



THE ROYAL CHILDREN'S SLEDGE.



HER MAJESTY'S SLEDGE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



apparent to every one out of Russia, and beyond the pale of Russian partisanship, that the combined strength of the Allies will prove an overmatch for him, he has still the opportunity of remaining quiescent, and trusting to the chapter of accidents, if not of withdrawing altogether, and with the best grace he can, from the dilemma into which ungovernable lust of dominion has led him. The naval occupation of the Euxine is not an act of war, nor a declaration of war. It is a strictly legal act, against which the Russian Emperor has not the legal right even to enter a protest. His invasion and appropriation of Moldavia and Wallachia was an act of war, not only against Turkey, but against every State that was a party to the last territorial settlement of Europe; and if the Great Powers were contented to look upon it in a different light, it was only with the hope that the Czar himself would escape by the loophole which had been mercifully left for his pride as well as for his convenience. But the entrance of the allied fleets into the Euxine admits of no such designation. The Black Sea is not the property of Russia. Neither nature nor treaties give her any exclusive rights over it. It is a highway for the commerce of all nations that choose to make use of it; and the only power in the world that has the right to assume a dominion over it, is the power that commands its entrance.

The reasons which have induced the British and French Governments to take this decisive step, have been concisely and admirably set forth by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, in a circular addressed to the representatives of France at all the Courts of Europe. We have reproduced this document *in extenso* in another column. The logic of M. Drouyn de Lhuys is unanswerable. It was the same able statesman who so effectually demolished the false pretences of M. de Nesselrode. There is no ambiguity or double dealing about the French Foreign Minister. He can crush a crafty opponent in the most quiet but most effectual way in the world; or he can administer a reproof, with irresistible logic, and the most cutting sarcasm—not the less trenchant because most polite and courteous. It is impossible for the Emperor of Russia to mistake the meaning of this temperate but significant State paper. It means war in every line of it—war avoided as long as was consistent with duty and honour—not from cowardice, but from a sense of the awful responsibility resting upon the souls of those who rashly or wickedly undertake it; but a war, when finally resolved upon, that will be fought out to the utmost limits to which it can tax the spirit, the energies, and the resources of a mighty nation. We have not the smallest doubt that a circular to the full as emphatic has been addressed by the British Court to all its envoys and representatives. The French nation, not possessing a Parliamentary Government, must obtain the publicity of such documents from the Ministry by means of the official columns in the *Moniteur*; but England, when its Parliament is not sitting, must be contented to wait for a knowledge of the contents of similar State papers until cognizance of them comes fairly before the great Council of the Nation. French statesmen have thus an occasional advantage over their British compeers; and thus, at the present moment, the name of M. Drouyn de Lhuys stands more prominently and advantageously before the European public than that of the English Foreign Minister. But no one in England will begrudge him the advantage and the honour. He speaks like a man; and his words will have weight wherever there are manly hearts to respond to them. Lord Clarendon's instructions to the representatives of this country at foreign Courts, we feel confident, will be as worthy of this country as those of M. Drouyn de Lhuys are of France; though it is, perhaps, a matter for regret that the British circular could not have been given to the world contemporaneously with the French one. Be this as it may, Lord Clarendon's opinions are known to the Emperor of Russia, and will operate as strongly upon his mind as if they had already been printed in every newspaper in Europe.

We trust that the occupation of the Euxine will not be wholly a warlike one. If the Emperor will persist in braving the justice and the strength of the world, on his own head must fall the consequences. The loss, not only of Sebastopol, but of the whole Crimea and the Black Sea fleet may happen to be the least of them; but, even although the necessity should not arise for resorting to such extremities, the fleets of Great Britain and France have nobler tasks than to destroy. Under their protection a work of reparation ought to be attempted while they have the opportunity. The Sulina mouth of the Danube, which, contrary to treaty, the Emperor has allowed to be silted up, and which is actually choked with the wrecks of hundreds of unfortunate vessels that might have escaped destruction if he had fulfilled his solemn pledges, must be cleared and deepened, so that the Danube may be restored to Europe as the great highway of commerce to many fertile regions. The cost of this necessary work ought to be reckoned as one of the heavy items which the Emperor will yet have to pay for his indulgence in the mad freaks of his guilty ambition.

#### THE MANIFESTO OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

The *Moniteur* of Friday, the 6th inst., contained, in its official columns, the following Circular, addressed by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, to the various diplomatic agents of France throughout Europe:—

"Sir,—The affairs of the East now assume a turn too serious for me not, at the moment when circumstances impose fresh duties on the Government of his Imperial Majesty, to remind you of the efforts which we have never ceased to make in order to prevent the complications with which Europe is so seriously threatened.

"The question of the Holy Places—either badly presented, or wrongly understood—had excited the alarms of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg. We endeavoured to quiet that uneasiness by complete explanations, given in good faith. It had appeared to us that, while reserving the rights of the Porte, a discussion of this kind would better have taken place at a distance from the scene where it began. Our opinion was not shared in by Russia, and Prince Menschikoff received orders to proceed to Constantinople. I shall confine myself to remarking that, if we had entertained the exclusive views which were attributed to us—if the vindication of our old and incontestable privileges had not been supported with so much moderation—the mission of that Ambassador Extraordinary would have been immediately the object of a conflict which we have known how to avoid. The affair of the sanctuaries of Jerusalem having been, according to the testimony of Count de Nesselrode himself, settled in a satisfactory manner, another difficulty arose. Prince Menschikoff claimed guarantees for the maintenance of the privileges of the Greek Church. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg did not establish by any particular fact, that these privileges had been violated; and the Porte, on the contrary, solemnly confirmed the religious immunities of its Christian subjects.

"Animated with a desire to put an end to a difference which, if it on the one hand concerned the sovereign rights of the Sultan, on the other affected the conscience of the Emperor Nicholas, the Government of his Imperial Majesty, in concert with that of her Britannic Majesty, carefully

sought for the means of reconciling the interests, at once so delicate and so complicated, which were engaged in it. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg cannot have forgotten the zeal and the good faith with which we endeavoured to fulfil this difficult task; nor can it deny that the resistance of the Porte to accede to a first plan of arrangement, emanating from the conference of Vienna, has not been the sole cause of our want of success.

"In the course of these different negotiations grave facts occurred. A Russian army crossed the Pruth, and invaded in full peace two provinces of the Ottoman Empire. The squadrons of France and England were made to approach the Dardanelles, and at that time, if the Government of his Imperial Majesty had desired it, its naval forces would have been anchored in the waters of Constantinople. However, if it thought it necessary to establish its right, it was only, as it were, to make its moderation more striking. The nature of the relations between Russia and the Sublime Porte had become such that it was necessary for the state of war to succeed the state of peace; or, to speak more correctly, it was necessary that things should take their veritable name, and that the aggression of which the Turkish territory was the object should produce its consequences. This change in the situation necessitated a new movement of our fleet, and on the demand of the Sultan the French flag appeared in the Bosphorus at the same time as the British flag. However, Monsieur —, we had not abandoned the hope of an arrangement, and, in accord with Austria and Prussia, as we previously were with England, we continued to pursue a pacific object. New propositions, for the success of which we shall not cease to employ our efforts, have been addressed to the Porte by the representatives of the Four Powers.

"No treaty concluded with Russia interdicted the navigation of the Black Sea to our vessels of war. The treaty of the 13th July, 1841, by closing, in time of peace, the passages of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, reserved to the Sultan the faculty of opening them in time of war; and from the day on which his Highness left us free access to the Straits, that of the Euxine was legally acquired to us. The same motives which had detained us so long in the Bay of Besika detained our squadron in the roadstead of Beycos. The Government of his Imperial Majesty had at heart to testify to the end the sentiments of friendship which it professes for Russia, and to reject in the eyes of the world the responsibility of an aggravation of the state of things which all its circumspection (*menagements*) had not succeeded in modifying. It took pleasure in believing, besides, from recent despatches from General de Castelbajac, that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, satisfied with a taking of possession which it considered as a pledge, would not anywhere take the offensive in a conflict which has commenced so unfortunately for Turkey. It appeared to us sufficient that the presence of our flag in the waters of Constantinople should attest our firm intention to protect this capital from a sudden danger, and we did not wish that its premature appearance in a spot nearer to the Russian territory should run the risk of passing for a provocation.

"The state of war rendered, no doubt, a collision possible on sea as well as on land between the belligerent parties; but we were warranted in believing that our reserve would be imitated by Russia, and that her Admirals would avoid, with the same care as ours, the occasions of a rencontre, by abstaining from proceeding to measures of aggression within limits in which, if we could have supposed the Cabinet of St. Petersburg to be animated with different intentions, our fleet would certainly have exercised a more active surveillance.

"The affair of Sinope, Monsieur —, took place contrary to all our provisions; and this deplorable fact also modifies the attitude which we should have desired to maintain.

"The accord which has recently been effected at Vienna, between France, Austria, England, and Prussia, has established the European character of the difference which exists between Russia and the Porte. The four Courts have solemnly recognised that the territorial integrity of the Ottoman Empire is one of the conditions of their political equilibrium. The occupation of Moldavia and Wallachia constitutes a fresh attack on that integrity, and it is not doubtful but that the chances of war may lead to others.

"Count de Nesselrode, some months since, represented the invasion of the Danubian Principalities as a necessary compensation for what he then called our maritime occupation. In our turn, Monsieur —, we think that it has become indispensable to ourselves to measure the extent of the compensation to which we have a right, both from our title of a power interested in the existence of Turkey, and from the military positions already taken by the Russian army. It is necessary that we should have a pledge which will secure to us the re-establishment of peace in the East on conditions which shall not change the distribution of the respective strength of the great States of Europe.

"The Government of his Imperial Majesty and that of her Britannic Majesty, have, in consequence, decided that their squadrons shall enter into the Black Sea, and combine their movements in such a way as to prevent the Ottoman territory or the Ottoman flag from being the object of any fresh attack on the part of the naval forces of Russia.

"Vice-Admirals Hamelin and Dundas will receive orders to communicate to whom it may concern the object of their mission; and we take pleasure in hoping that this straightforward proceeding will prevent conflicts, which we should see with the greatest regret. The Government of the Emperor, I repeat, has only one object, that of contributing to effect, on honourable conditions, a reconciliation (*rapprochement*) between the two belligerent parties; and, if circumstances should oblige it to provide for redoubtable eventualities, it retains the confidence that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg, which has given such numerous examples of its prudence, will not expose Europe, scarcely yet recovered from the shocks it has experienced, to trials from which the lofty reason of sovereigns has been able to preserve it for so many years.

"I authorise you to read this dispatch to M. —."

"DROUYN DE LHUYS."

#### HER MAJESTY'S SLEDGE.

DURING the severe weather of last week, the deep snow presented an opportunity for the enjoyment of sledge drives in the neighbourhood of Windsor. On Wednesday afternoon, his Royal Highness Prince Albert drove her Majesty in the Royal Sledge, towards Staines; the Princesses following in a second Sledge; and on Friday morning, the Queen, attended by Viscountess Jocelyn, again drove out; the Prince of Wales, accompanied by the Earl and Countess of Shelburne, following in a second Sledge.

The Royal Sledge is drawn by two grey horses, across whose backs are thrown leopard-skins; in the network over the harness are suspended small circular bells, mounted with feathers, besides larger bells, which produce three different notes. The body of the Sledge is painted with a dark ground, cross-barred with gold; and the inside is lined with red velvet. Her Majesty is attended by Colonel Bouverie, and Colonel Seymour; and the outriders and grooms wear their scarlet liveries. The second Sledge, containing the Princess Royal, and the Princess Alice, with their Governess, was driven by Colonel Grey; and was drawn by two grey horses.

The children's Sledge, also represented upon the preceding page, is simply made from a carriage, and drawn by a pony.

SHAMEFUL TREATMENT OF ENGLISHMEN BY RUSSIA.—Of the Turkish fleet destroyed by the Russians at Sinope, among the frigates riding at anchor, was one belonging to the Pacha of Egypt, officered by three English engineers and two English stokers; this frigate was captured, and the engineers and stokers, together with a great number of the crew, were made prisoners by the Russians. They were taken to Sebastopol, and thence transported to Odessa. Although the engineers wore the uniform of officers, they were treated as common Russian sailors, that is most shamefully, being kept in strict confinement, and with the allowance of 8½ copecks silver, or 3d. per diem. On their arrival at Odessa the Consul-General represented the facts to the authorities there, and required that the chief engineer, at least, should be treated as an officer and a gentleman, but to all his remonstrances the authorities turned a deaf ear, and it was said intended to march them eighty miles into the interior on foot. The Consul-General has reported this case to our Ambassador at St. Petersburg, whose remonstrances have been most energetic; but it would appear that they have met with as little respect as those of the Consul-General. Had the authorities acknowledged the rank of the officers, it would have cost them twice 8½ copecks, or the large sum of sixpence per diem. The chief engineer in question is the chief engineer of the Pacha of Egypt's dockyard at Alexandria, well known to many of the officers of her Majesty's steam-vessels and to those of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, for the facilities he was always ready to afford, where assistance was required in cases of derangement of machinery, &c. Now, when it is considered that within a few days of the time when the chances of an unequal war threw these unfortunate gentlemen into the power of the Russians, a Russian frigate was actually being repaired by English engineers, in one of her Majesty's dockyards; such conduct in return is, to say the least of it, most dastardly.

By the *Valparaiso Echo* we learn that Mr. George Maughan, the able engineer, who but a few months since arrived from England to head the engineering department of the Valparaiso and Santiago Railway, died on the 9th November, after a short illness. The directors and a large number of their friends accompanied Mr. Maughan's remains to the tomb.

INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF GAS.—The Phoenix Gas Light and Coke Company have notified their intention of forthwith raising the price of gas from 4s. to 4s. 6d. per 1000 cubic feet. The advance has been occasioned by the increased cost of coal, freight, iron, and labour.

THE SEARCH FOR FRANKLIN.—The Admiralty have determined again to despatch the screw-steamer *Phoenix*, in the ensuing spring, to Beechy Island, to communicate with, and to convey supplies to, Sir Edward Belcher's expedition in search of Sir John Franklin.

#### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

##### FRANCE.

The announcement that the Prince de Chimay had been sent by the King of the Belgians on a secret mission to Louis Napoleon furnished speculators in the Bourse with new rumour that war was likely to be arrested. The report was contradicted next day, but it served the stock-jobbing purpose of the moment. The Legitimist organs are still busily endeavouring to sow dissension between France and England, but they make no impression.

Some further details have transpired relative to the mission of the Prince de Chimay to Paris. M. Rogier, Belgian Minister at Paris, is not popular with the French Government. This feeling being communicated to King Leopold, he proposed to substitute for him the Prince de Chimay, as personally agreeable to Louis Napoleon. The Council decidedly opposed the change, M. Rogier's services not meriting such a slight. A middle course was adopted, the Prince de Chimay was sent as on a special mission, with directions to pass the winter in Paris.

The publication of the circular of M. Drouyn de Lhuys has been followed by another announcement not less significant. The *Moniteur* of Saturday publishes a decree calling into active service all the young soldiers available under the second portion of the contingent of the class of 1852. The number of this force is variously estimated at 45,000 to 50,000. This decree is substantially an augmentation of the effective force of the army by from 20,000 to 40,000.

##### TURKEY.

As many contradictory statements have been made regarding the nature of the note presented to the Porte by the Ambassadors of the Four Powers, we give the actual text; as future proceedings may, to some extent, depend upon it:—

The undersigned Ambassador of her Britannic Majesty, in accordance with the representatives of France, Austria, and Prussia, has the honour to make known to the Sublime Porte that the Governments of the Four Powers, having still reason to believe that his Majesty the Emperor of Russia does not regard the thread of negotiations as broken by the declaration of war, and by the events the consequence thereof; and knowing, moreover, that, according to the proposed declarations of his Imperial Majesty, that he desires only to behold assured a perfect equality of rights and immunities *octroyée* by his Majesty the Sultan and his glorious ancestors to the Christian communities, subjects of the Sublime Porte:

On its part, the Sublime Porte, responding to those declarations by that which it made itself to regard as concerning it honour to continue to maintain the said rights and immunities, and to be still disposed to put an end to the difference arising between the two powers, the negotiation to be followed shall be based upon:—

1. The evacuation of the Principalities, to take place as soon as possible.
2. The renewal of ancient treaties.
3. The communication of the firmans relative to the spiritual privileges freely granted by the Sublime Porte to all its subjects not Mussulmen, which communication, made to the powers, shall be accompanied by suitable assurances given to each of them.

The arrangement already made to complete the agreement relative to the Holy Places and to the religious establishments at Jerusalem shall be definitively adopted.

This arrangement concerns the erection of a church and the establishment of a Russian hospital at Jerusalem.

The Sublime Porte shall declare to the representatives that it is ready to name a Plenipotentiary to establish an armistice, and to negotiate on the above-mentioned basis, with the concurrence of the Powers, and in a neutral town, to be agreed upon between them.

The declarations made by the Powers in the preamble of the treaty of July 13, 1841, shall be formally confirmed by those same Powers in the interest of the independence and integrity of the Ottoman Empire, and in that of the equilibrium of Europe.

The Sublime Porte shall declare on its part in the same interest its firm resolution to develop more efficaciously its administrative system, and those internal reforms of a nature to satisfy the wants and the just expectations of its subjects of all classes.

(Signed)

STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE,  
BARAGUAY D'HILLIERS,  
L. DE WILDENBRUCK,  
B. DE BRUCK.

Pera, Dec. 12, 1853.

The *Trieste Zeitung* announces, under date of Constantinople, Jan. 2, that three Persian corps were marching against Erzeroum, Bagdad, and towards the Persian Gulf.

A private telegraphic despatch, dated Constantinople, Jan. 3, says:—

The combined squadrons of France and England entered the Black Sea this day, together with the first division of the Turco-Egyptian fleet. Six vessels are left at Beicos, to guard the entrance of the Bosphorus, and the second division of the Ottoman fleet is anchored at Therapia.

The French Government received despatches from Constantinople of the 31st ult. On Wednesday last the Divan gave its adhesion to all the propositions of the Four Powers.

##### THE TURKISH INSURRECTION.

Private letters from Constantinople give some interesting particulars regarding the threatened insurrection in that city on the announcement that Turkey was about to make peace with Russia. The note presented by the Four Powers was signed by the Ministers of the Porte on the night of the 20th ult. The news got abroad that evening, and the excitement became very great. Early next morning crowds of Sofas (students of Mahomedan theology, candidates for the priesthood, and the hottest votaries of Moslemism) assembled in different parts of Constantinople in strong bodies. Round the mosques of the Sultan Mehmet and Cheik Zade no less than 2500 of these men gathered, very wrath at what was passing, and deeming the cause of Islamism betrayed to the interest of the infidel Giaours. A dragoman belonging to one of the embassies, who had to go to Constantinople early that morning to see Redschid Pacha on urgent business, started from Pera at about half-past eight, and crossed the great bridge that stretches across the Golden Horn from Galata, on horseback. He penetrated far into the immense city, and was nearing Redschid Pacha's palace, when, having to pass by the mosque of the Sultan Mehmet, he was surprised at seeing so many Sofas assembled in the great space surrounding that noble edifice. On passing, in his chimney hat and European dress, he was, however, greeted by a shower of stones; and, setting spurs to his horse, pressed on to the palace of the Pacha, with the intention of informing him of what had occurred, and of demanding redress. After rushing through the narrow lanes of Stamboul, at the risk of breaking his neck, he neared Redschid Pacha's residence. The Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs was just entering his carriage; two carriages were behind, with his sons in them. Consternation and alarm were depicted in the countenance of the Turkish Minister, and he beckoned to him to return immediately, as he could not possibly attend to him. Redschid Pacha drove off, surrounded by his attendants and guards, to the Sultan's palace of Tchéragan, which is situated on the Bosphorus, not thinking himself in safety at Stamboul.

Every person, who has visited Constantinople, knows that the waters of the Golden Horn (the port) divide the Turkish capital from the European suburbs. Nevertheless, numbers of merchants have warehouses in Constantinople. It is easy to conceive, therefore, the consternation of those gentlemen on receiving communications from their respective embassies, to close their offices, as the town was in a state of revolt. They had seen nothing, remarked nothing. But Stamboul is an immense place, and men of business do not stroll. The alarm spread—warehouses, offices, bazaars, shops, &c., were shut—and all the Christians hurried across the bridge to Galata and Pera as fast as they could. Their fellow-countrymen on that side, eager to know what was going on on the other side of the water, questioned them in vain. They had seen little assemblies in the streets, and some of the shops were shut. That was all they could relate; but they were much frightened, and eagerly inquired whether the fleets were not coming down.

When the tumult was at its height General Prim and Lord Dudley Stuart (so one of the letters says) presented themselves alone, and without any protection whatever, in the midst of the excited assemblage; and it is but just to say that they were both received, even at that critical moment, not only without menace or insult being offered to them, but with marks of respect. General Prim, who has served rather a fair apprenticeship in insurrectionary movements, must have felt quite at home on the occasion, and probably it recalled to his memory scenes of other days of a similar kind—Barcelona, Vich, Valencia, Reus, and Madrid, *quorum pars fui*. On former occasions, and those not very remote, it would have been as much as his life was worth for a Giaour to have presented himself in the midst of an *émeute* in the Turkish capital.

At two o'clock a meeting was held at the British Embassy, at the desire of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. The Representatives of Austria, Belgium, Spain, Sardinia, Holland, Naples, and others, attended. General Baraguay d'Hilliers, the French Ambassador, being absent at Therapia, an express was sent off for him, and he returned to Pera that afternoon. M. de Wildenbruck, the Prussian Ambassador, was likewise not in town, but at Kurucemesli, his residence on the Bosphorus. On the news reaching him of the state of Constantinople, he immediately repaired to the place of meeting.

Measures for the protection of the Christian suburbs were taken with



the most judicious precaution, and in such a way as not to alarm the inhabitants. The steamers did not come down until after dark, and their presence in the Golden Horn was scarcely remarked; indeed, some persons doubted whether any were coming at all. Any person, however, who knew the prompt manner of acting and the decision of the British Ambassador, felt sure that all that was necessary would be done. The marines were kept in readiness to disembark, and the boats were prepared to be launched at a moment's notice. The three wooden bridges that unite the suburbs of Constantinople with the Turkish city were kept open during the whole night. On such an occasion as this it is necessary to prepare for the worst, though not believing in very serious disorders, as a European cannot possibly estimate the intentions of a Turkish mob with much accuracy. At the same time any very sudden display of military or naval force might irritate the population, and cause the very thing which they have been called on to prevent. The immense naval force lying in the Bosphorus was more than sufficient to put down any attack upon the Christians that might be meditated by the Turkish population.

The city continued in a very excited state on the 22nd and 23rd; but no further tumult took place. The ringleaders, and more active of the rioters, were put in prison. They declared that they had no intention of harming anybody, whether Turk or Christian, but that their demonstration was simply against those Pashas (meaning, no doubt, the newly-named Ministers, Riza Pasha and Halil Pasha) whom they did not trust, and who did not in any way inspire them with confidence, their precedents being unfavourable, and they being suspected of standing under Russian influences.

#### THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

Telegraphic despatches from Hermannstadt of the 6th inst. announce that a serious engagement has taken place at, or in the vicinity of, Kalafat. Cars were arriving at Krajova filled with the wounded. Krajova is placed in a state of siege, and the commandant has threatened to visit with the severest punishment all who shall disseminate disquieting reports.

According to accounts from Bucharest of the 4th, a Turkish squadron drove in the Russian outposts at Balescht-Cetate, a village on the high road between Kalafat and Krajova. A Russian battalion came up, and a combat ensued in which each side suffered severely.

A letter from Krajova, dated the 30th ult., states that the insurrection of the peasantry along the left bank of the Danube, is every day becoming wider and wider. The movement is supported in part by the irregular Wallachian militia, and has extended from Kalafat to the Aluta. Turnul, also, on the right shore of the Aluta, has been abandoned by its civil authorities, which were favourable to the Russians. Additional numbers of Russian troops have been sent into the disaffected district. The present Turkish force at Kalafat numbers more than 80,000 men, and is constantly being increased. Judges of military matters believe the Omer Pasha will soon again assume the offensive, and attempt to cross the Danube at Turnul-Servin. The cold had become intense, and an unusually long and severe winter was expected.

A letter from Bucharest, dated the 28th ult., states that there was no prospect whatever of a suspension of hostilities. Notwithstanding the extreme cold and great depth of snow, the dislocation of the Russian troops continued. At Oltenitza three large subterranean dwellings had been constructed for the Russian outposts stationed at that point. Similar winter quarters have been constructed for the troops in other parts of the Principalities. The skirmishes between the outposts of the two armies have not ceased, as the number of wounded daily, for some time, brought to Krsjowa and Bucharest, indicates. Twelve pieces of the heaviest Russian artillery had recently been sent from Bucharest to Giurgevo.

The theatre of war is approaching nearer and nearer to the Austrian frontier. The Russians already occupy Graja, a village scarcely four leagues from the Austrian territory. The troops stationed in that vicinity came down from the northern part of Lesser Wallachia. Omer Pasha's camp is at Rutchuk; but he visits Widdin every four or five days.

#### RUSSIA.

As matters stand now between the Western Powers and Russia, we must be prepared for an angry outburst from the North. If the language used by the Western Powers, in their notification of the orders given to the combined fleets to enter the Black Sea (or, as others call it, the Western ultimatum), is at all calculated to touch his Imperial Majesty to the quick, then nothing can be more sure than that the Russian Ambassadors will be ordered to leave London and Paris forthwith. But, even in this case, it is thought that the diplomatic relations will not at once be entirely broken off. On or before the 16th or 17th instant the all-important answer—not to say decision—may be expected from St. Petersburg. The general belief is that the Emperor is resolved to refuse the intervention of a mediating congress; he will only consent to receive the propositions of the Porte through the intermediation of the Four Powers. It is quite impossible to be deceived, therefore, as to the gravity of the situation. The excitement at St. Petersburg is equal to that at Constantinople. The national movement which in 1848 caused so much agitation has reached Russia. Never was a political question so publicly discussed at St. Petersburg before as this Eastern question. The priests make it the text of their sermons: they preach a crusade against the infidels, and, in the eyes of the national party, the question is a reparation to the honour of Russia, and to put down the revolutionists. In Russia, all persons opposed to the orders of the Emperor are called revolutionists. The exaltation is such that it would be difficult even for the Emperor to follow a peaceful and conciliatory line of policy.

A rumour was prevalent at Jassy on the 23rd December that General Woronzoff had died at Tiflis, and that his successor *ad interim* is to be General Osten Sacken.

#### GERMANY.

A telegraphic despatch, dated Berlin, 9th inst., states that the Second Chamber held a secret sitting to receive a communication from the Government relative to the acquisition by Prussia of a military port on the North Sea.

The Russo-Polish authorities have announced to the Prussian Government the discovery of a political plot, which had come to light through numerous arrests in the ex-kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Posen. The Emperor Nicholas has expressed a desire that the Prussian papers should abstain from all communications on the movements of the Russian army.

For some time past a certain degree of animosity has prevailed amongst the soldiers of a Hungarian regiment in garrison at Vienna against their sub-officers. Last week, while a party of the men were drinking in the canteen of the barracks a quarrel began with a sub-officer, which soon came to blows, in which the latter was killed.

#### SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

On the 21st, the secret committee of the Four Chambers met his Majesty, King Oscar, to receive communications explanatory of the large demands lately made for the defence of the kingdom; and the *Folkets Rast* (a Stockholm journal) gives an outline of the proceedings. The King laid before the committee numerous notes exchanged with the great European Powers, amounting to not less than twenty-five, from A to Z, the substance of which is that Russia had begun by making several demands, most offensive to Sweden, in case war should break out in the Baltic or its neighbourhood; that the Government has declined these requisitions in the most precise terms; that it has, at the same time, made communications on this subject to England, France, Prussia, and Austria; and that it has finally obtained the satisfactory result, that perfect neutrality shall be a guarantee, in case of war, to the united kingdoms (i.e., to Sweden and Norway). But France, England, and Prussia stipulated as one condition that the said united kingdoms shall keep a sufficient force, so as to be able to maintain and (of themselves) defend that neutrality, in case of need. The reason why his Majesty judged it right to convoke a secret committee for establishing an intercourse between himself and his States-General in this conjuncture was to obtain, in compliance with these expressed wishes of England, France, and Prussia, the consent of the Diet for raising next spring, if circumstances required it, about 600,000 rix dollars banco upon the extraordinary credits reclaimed during a certain number of years for completing the defence of the country. It is further said that the entire policy pursued by the Government on this question, as likewise the energy it has displayed in defending the independence of the united kingdoms, has given great satisfaction to all the members of the committee.

A letter from Christiania says:—

Norway has decided on the fitting out of a squadron, composed of four frigates, five corvettes, and three brigs. This measure has been adopted in view of the events which are in preparation. This country, although united to Sweden, has, as is known, a constitution of its own, a fleet of its own, and a national flag. Its inhabitants, like the Swedes, are altogether opposed to the Russian policy, of which they know the ambitious intentions, and, in consequence, they reckon on the power of France and England to aid them, if necessary, to cause their neutrality to be re-

spected. The Russian officers sent on mission have been received with courtesy and consideration; but they must have convinced themselves of the slight sympathy which the conduct of their Government inspires in any class of society. At the date of the last despatches they were in the province of Søndefeld, having just visited that of Nordland.

#### SPAIN.

An extraordinary *Gazette* was published at Madrid on the 5th, announcing the birth, that morning, of a Princess to the Queen, and that her Majesty and the child were going on well. The French Embassy, in consequence of the inability of the Ambassador to assist on the occasion of the accouchement, was represented by the First Secretary, and that of Great Britain by Mr. Otway, the Secretary of Legation—Lord Howden, on account of the recent loss of his mother and ill health, having excused himself on the occasion.

A despatch dated Madrid, January 8, announces the death of the Infanta that day, at noon.

#### PORTUGAL.

It is stated that the young King is about to marry his Coburg cousin, the Princess Charlotte of Belgium. Lisbon is perfectly quiet, and is likely to be, as long as the British squadron remains in the Tagus.

#### AMERICA.

The steamer *Asia* has brought New York papers and letters to the 28th ult. The steamer *Pacific* had arrived two days previously. Another terrible conflagration had occurred in New York on the 26th ult., by which upwards of 1,000,000 dollars worth of property had been destroyed. The conflagration first commenced in Front-street, and extended on both sides. Some of the sparks from the burning buildings were blown into the sails of the colossal ship *Great Republic*, which was lying in an adjacent dock, nearly ready to sail for Liverpool; and, in a very short period, she was a mass of flame. The burning materials then communicated to the packet-ship *Joseph Walker*, and the celebrated clipper *White Squall*. The three ships, notwithstanding energetic endeavours to save them, were totally destroyed. The *Great Republic*, valued at 300,000 dollars, was insured for 180,000 dollars: the cargo, valued at the same amount as the vessel, was insured for 275,000. The *Joseph Walker*, valued at 90,000 dollars, was insured for the full amount; the cargo, valued at 40,000 dollars, was uninsured. The *White Squall* was fully insured, for 80,000 dollars. Many vessels had narrow escapes from sharing the fate of the *Great Republic*. The *De Witt Clinton* was cut adrift, and escaped the flames; as did likewise the clipper *Whirlwind*, not, however, before she had some part of her rigging destroyed.

Cincinnati has been the scene of a riotous demonstration against Monsignor Bedini, the Pope's Nuncio, who was on a visit to Archbishop Purcell, of that city, and officiated in the cathedral. A most violent animosity, it seems, is entertained towards M. Bedini by a body of Germans in the city called the "Society of Freeman," and about 500 members of this society assembled at their hall, and, having organised, marched in a body to the vicinity of the Archbishop's residence, with the supposed intention of doing personal violence to the Nuncio. The chief of police, having received an intimation of the movement, retained the entire police-force at the watchhouse, which is situated opposite the Archbishop's residence. As the "Freemen" approached they set up a dismal groan, accompanied by shouting and discordant music. When the procession was passing the watchhouse, the police, at the word of command, rushed upon it, and each arrested a man. A general mêlée began. Many shots were fired, and shouts and execrations filled the air. The rioters finally fled, but were pursued by the police, and upwards of sixty of them were captured and placed in the cells of the watchhouse. The bitter animosity against the Nuncio which led to this outbreak is in consequence of his alleged betrayal of the cause of liberty in Italy during the Revolution of 1848. Several inflammatory articles have recently appeared in the German papers touching this matter, in one of which the following sentence occurs:—"If the Hungarian butcher, Haynau, met with so warm a reception in Monarchical England, what ought the Pope's Nuncio to expect in Republican America?" The persons arrested have been held to bail. Fourteen of the rioters were wounded, of whom one has died. It will be recollected that M. Bedini experienced a somewhat similar reception in Pittsburg.

The mail steamer *Winfield Scott*, which sailed from San Francisco on Dec. 1, with upwards of £1,000,000 in gold dust, went ashore on the following day, and became a total wreck; but the mails and treasures were saved.

Havannah advices of the 22d ult. state that the new Governor of Cuba signified his determination to do all in his power to prevent the landing of slaves, and also to capture slavers approaching the island.

Advices from Vera Cruz of the 22nd ult. state that Santa Anna had issued a decree accepting the Guadaluajara with a salary of 60,000 dols., but takes the title of Most Serene Highness, instead of Captain-General. Santa Anna had also decreed that, in case of his death, or moral disqualification, he should name his successor.

#### INDIA.

By the extraordinary express in anticipation of the Overland Calcutta Mail we have news from India and China. The dates are—Calcutta, Dec. 5; Madras, Dec. 8; Bombay, Dec. 14; China, Nov. 26. The news from India is of a gloomy character. There were rumours of war in Burmah. In the north-west there had been some fighting with the Afreedies, who were ultimately beaten. At Lucknow there had been a serious engagement between Captain Bunbury's regiment and the followers of a rebellious Rajah, whose fort was stormed. The news of the Russians having made themselves masters of Khiva was confirmed: the certainty of their presence there had caused the Governor-General to place an army of observation on the north-west frontier. There is no news from China of much importance.

#### AUSTRALIA.

By the arrival of the ship *Francis Henty*, we have advices from Melbourne to October the 13th. The passengers express the greatest confidence in the gold fields, all of them bringing substantial proofs of success, from £1000 to £10,000 each. The population of Melbourne and the neighbourhood was again beginning to move for the summer diggings campaign, and this movement had caused an increased demand for commodities; but there appeared no chance and no expectation that the excitement, speculation, high prices of former years would be again experienced. The labour market was very active, there being a great demand for all kinds of labour, at increased wages. Seamen for the coast were abundant, but for home few offering, as most men seemed unwilling to leave the colony.

Three of the ringleaders of the daring gang of mounted highwaymen who stopped the M'Ivor gold escort, and plundered it of nearly £10,000 of treasure, suffered death on the scaffold at Melbourne gaol on the 4th of October, in the presence of a large concourse of persons. They were mainly convicted through one of the gang, named John Francis, a ticket-of-leave convict, transported from Sheffield, turning approver. According to his evidence it appeared that, on July 26th, he, with the three condemned men and two others, left the M'Ivor gold field for a place on the road, where they proposed to attack the gold escort on its way from the diggings to Melbourne. They all had horses, and each man was armed with a revolver, which they loaded with bullets and duck shot. They then cut large boughs from the trees, which they stuck upright in the road, so as to screen those of the gang who were behind. On the advance troopers of the escort coming up, they espied the prisoners behind the boughs, and instantly fired at them. The gang then rushed forward, and a volley was poured upon the escort. The fight then became general, and those in charge of the treasure being either wounded or overcome, the convicts soon obtained possession of the boxes of gold, which they put into a cart, and made off into the bush. The gold was then measured out in a powder-flask, and equally divided amongst them. They then took different roads to Melbourne, where Francis had a house. They evaded the vigilance of the police until the 11th of August, when four of them, including the approver, were captured.

#### WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying letter and Sketches.

On the 7th November, the *Penelope* having arrived off Lagos, the following day King Ducimo and suite went off to pay his respects to Rear-Admiral Bruce, accompanied by Abbeokutan chiefs. On his arrival, he was received on the quarter deck by the Admiral, Captain Lyster, and Captains of her Majesty's ships *Polyphemus*, *Ferret*, and *Waterwitch*. His Majesty, after being presented to the Commander-in-Chief, took his seat on the quarter-deck, his followers going down in succession on their knees and kissing the deck before him. On going round the ship, the Admiral ordered a shot and shell to be discharged from one of the 68-pounder guns. They were astonished at the distance the shot was propelled, and more so when the shell burst in the air. After partaking of some refreshment, the King with his suite, left for the shore, evidently much pleased with what he had seen.

King Ducimo has just been placed on the throne, by the death of his father, King Akito, who, as far as report goes, poisoned himself. The present King has taken the direction of affairs at a very troubled period, several attempts having been made by the deposed chief Kosoko, assisted by the slave-dealers, to retake Lagos, and revive that infamous traffic. However, the late attack made on him (Kosoko) at Appli, and the massacre of the slave-dealers, at Jabu, it is hoped, has caused a check on him at present.

The first illustration represents the Admiral showing King Ducimo round the ship; his "Majesty" appearing naked to the waist, which is considered the highest mark of respect that can be paid by native chiefs to Europeans.

The next incidents in our Correspondent's letter are of a less pacific character.

In July last, the British merchant schooner *Heroine*, then at anchor off Grand Taboo (a large village thirty miles to the eastward of Capa Palmas), was boarded by about sixty of the natives, who barbarously murdered the captain and the whole of her crew, excepting one boy, who saved himself by hiding in the schooner's hold. The particulars of the sad affair are as follows:—Captain Cormack, who had been some time trading on the coast of Africa, purchased a quantity of palm oil, and landed some of his goods as part payment, the residue to be paid on his receiving the oil. It would appear that the chiefs never intended fulfilling their part of the agreement; at least, their breaking faith with, and not bringing the oil on board, induced Captain Cormack to believe as much; for, after waiting a considerable time without obtaining any satisfactory or conclusive answer, he deemed it necessary to adopt some other measures, to prevent his owners being defrauded; and it is to be regretted that the measures he resorted to were stronger than the circumstances of the case actually required. He got some one or more of the chiefs of Taboo and Bassa on board, and put them in irons, intending to keep them prisoners until he received payment for his goods. How long they were kept in confinement is not known; but the result was, a number of canoes came off laden with palm-oil casks, but only two containing oil, the others water. Of this deception the unfortunate master of the schooner was ignorant; and, of course, allowed them alongside his vessel to discharge their loads: when they rushed on board, shot the captain, clove open the mate's skull with a hatchet, and forced overboard and murdered the remainder of the crew, with the exception of the boy before mentioned. Rear-Admiral Bruce, in the *Penelope*, arrived off Grand Taboo on the 27th November, when a canoe with six natives came alongside; they were immediately made prisoners, and their canoe hoisted on board. The *Penelope* then proceeded to Grand Bassa, and sent a cutter on shore with an invitation to the King to come on board; after a great deal of palaver, his Majesty consented; but, much to his surprise, was made a prisoner—and told, until George Macaulay, Chief of Taboo, either came or was brought on board, his Majesty would be kept as a hostage. Means of communicating with the shore were afforded him, and he was informed that, at daylight, the ship would get under way for Taboo, to receive their chief, he being the promoter and principal leader of the attack on the schooner. Having ascertained that the six natives taken prisoners on the previous day had nothing to do with the affair, they were liberated. Messengers were sent on shore, but neither inducement nor threat would make the natives deliver up their chief. The Admiral then informed them, unless they complied with his demands he would blow their town down; their answer was—that "if the Admiral wait one year, two year, three year, he would not get George Macaulay." Consequently, the *Penelope* proceeded to within half a mile of the shore, getting a spring on the cable so as to swing broadside on, and opened fire with shot and shell. The place was soon observed to be in flames, and before sunset was completely reduced to ashes: the fire spreading rapidly among the dry huts and palm oil. After a couple of hours' good shot and shell practice, the *Penelope* hauled off into deeper water. King George of Bassa was that evening transferred to her Majesty's brig *Waterwitch*, where he will be kept as a hostage until George Macaulay surrenders; this he will doubtless soon be compelled to do, as the *Waterwitch* is to remain blockading the coast.

The illustration shows the *Penelope* hurling the *White Man's Fetish* into the town of Grand Taboo.

(From another Correspondent.)

A murder of a most revolting character has recently been perpetrated by some natives of the Island of Kanzabac, Bijouga Islands. The victim of the Blacks' ferocity was Mr. Carr, second master of the steamer *Myrmidon*: he had landed on some rocks opposite where the ship lay, on the 28th November, to amuse himself with spearing fish, but had not been on shore ten minutes when he was fired at from the bush or jungle; he was hit, and jumped or tumbled off the rock into the sea. Immediately two natives made their appearance, one of whom advanced when poor Carr rose from the water, shot him dead, and rushed into the bush. All this occurred so rapidly, that a gun was fired, and a boat shoved off, just as the murderers disappeared; but night soon setting in, the body was not recovered till next day.

The crew were greatly distressed; for Carr was universally beloved, and as promising a young officer as any on the station.

#### THE ACCIDENT AT THE SOUTHAMPTON DOCKS.

THE accident at Southampton Docks, on Tuesday week, of which we gave a brief notice in our last Publication, appears to have been of a much more serious nature than was supposed; indeed, it must have been a terrific spectacle to those who happened to be present. When the great lifting-sheers fell into the dock they carried with them a length of nearly 140 feet of the solid masonry, comprising the walls of the dock and a vast extent of the foundations, weighing in the aggregate some thousands of tons. The gigantic legs of the sheers, each of 15 tons weight, appear to have snapped off in several places like carrots; and the massive wrought iron bolts and fastenings securing the various parts together were torn away as though they had been packthread; while the immense blocks of granite lining the coping of the quay wall, together with immense masses of masonry, 40 feet in depth, were swept away and engulfed in the dock with a noise exceeding that of artillery or thunder. The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Madrid* was alongside the quay at the time, under repair, her boilers having been lifted in by these very sheers only a few days since. Owing to the tide being high, she sustained no damage whatever, the heavy pieces composing the debris of the sheers having fallen outside of her into the dock, while the quay walls slipped inside. The sheers were of the largest kind ever made, and capable of lifting 80 tons dead weight at one time. They have been tested to a lift of 50 tons, and, while constantly used in hoisting weights of 15 to 40 tons, no symptoms of disturbance or instability either in reference to the sheers or the dock walls have been observed. The sheers were 80 feet high; and with the necessary chains, gearing, blocks, and hoisting apparatus, cost several thousands of pounds. They are now a complete wreck. The damage done altogether by the accident is loosely estimated at from £30,000 to £40,000. The eastern wall on the dock, together with its foundations, is nearly in ruins, as fully 140 feet in length of it has fallen into the water; while a great portion of the remaining masonry is so insecure as to render its removal necessary. As regards the cause of the accident, it is supposed that, owing to the recent low tides, caused by the prevalence of heavy north-east winds, the severe frost had penetrated between the dock wall and the earthwork, and, acting upon a column of fresh water in the intervening space, as well as upon the inner part of the foundation, had shaken the stability of the fabric upon which the sheers were erected, and caused their entire destruction.

In the accompanying Sketch, of that part of the Docks where the accident has occurred, the Peninsular and Oriental Company's noble steam-ship *Bentick* is introduced, undergoing refitment at the sheers previous to her departure for India some few months back.

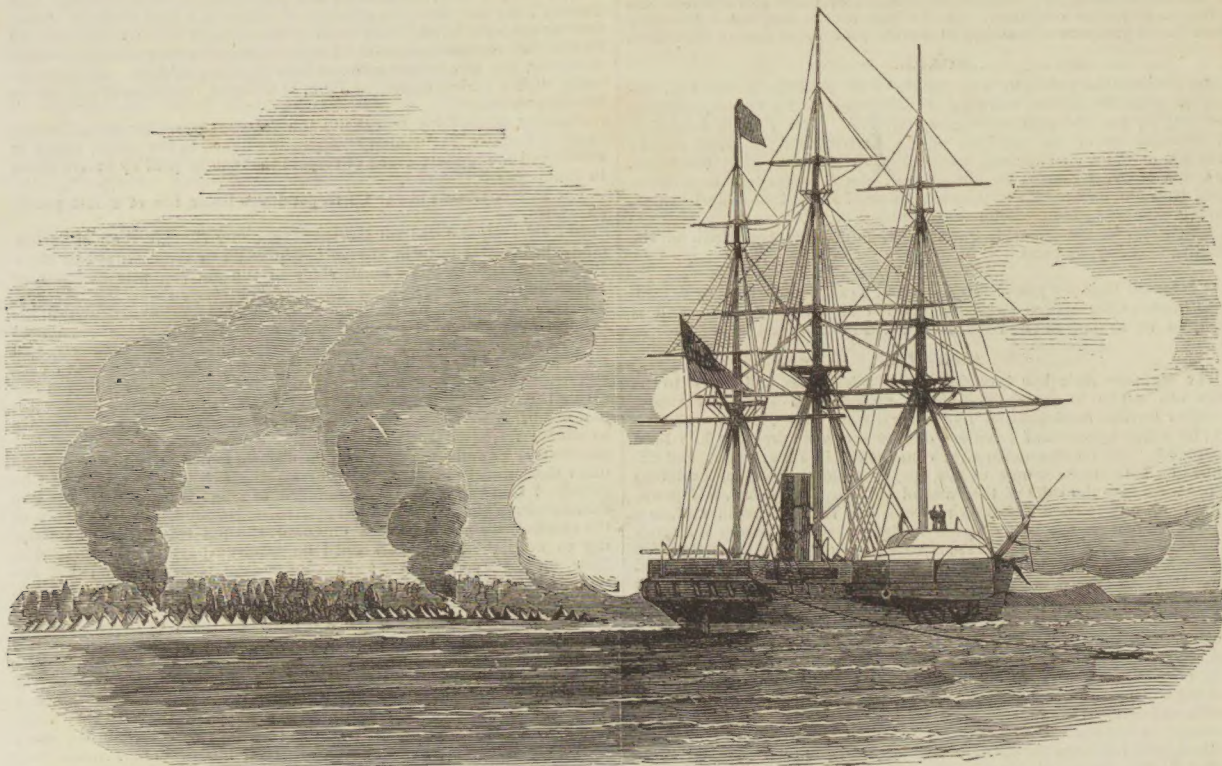
#### STATUE IN MARBLE OF ADMIRAL LORD DE SAUMARES, FOR THE HALL, GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

BY JOHN STEELL, R.S.A., EDINBURGH.

This work of art, of which we this day give an Engraving, has now been fixed in its place, and is one of the three statues of celebrated naval heroes commissioned for Government by the late Sir Robert Peel. In consequence of an accident which befel the model, the marble has only now been completed; but the fine conception, careful finish, and artistic feeling displayed, more than compensate for the delay, and almost dispose us to believe that works of art in this country and age are generally executed with more precipitancy than is consistent with excellence.

The mode of treatment adopted by Mr. Steell is that daily gaining ground—all the essential characteristics of costume, badges of honour, and emblems of rank being retained, although partially concealed beneath the ample and picturesque folds of a boat cloak—the continuous

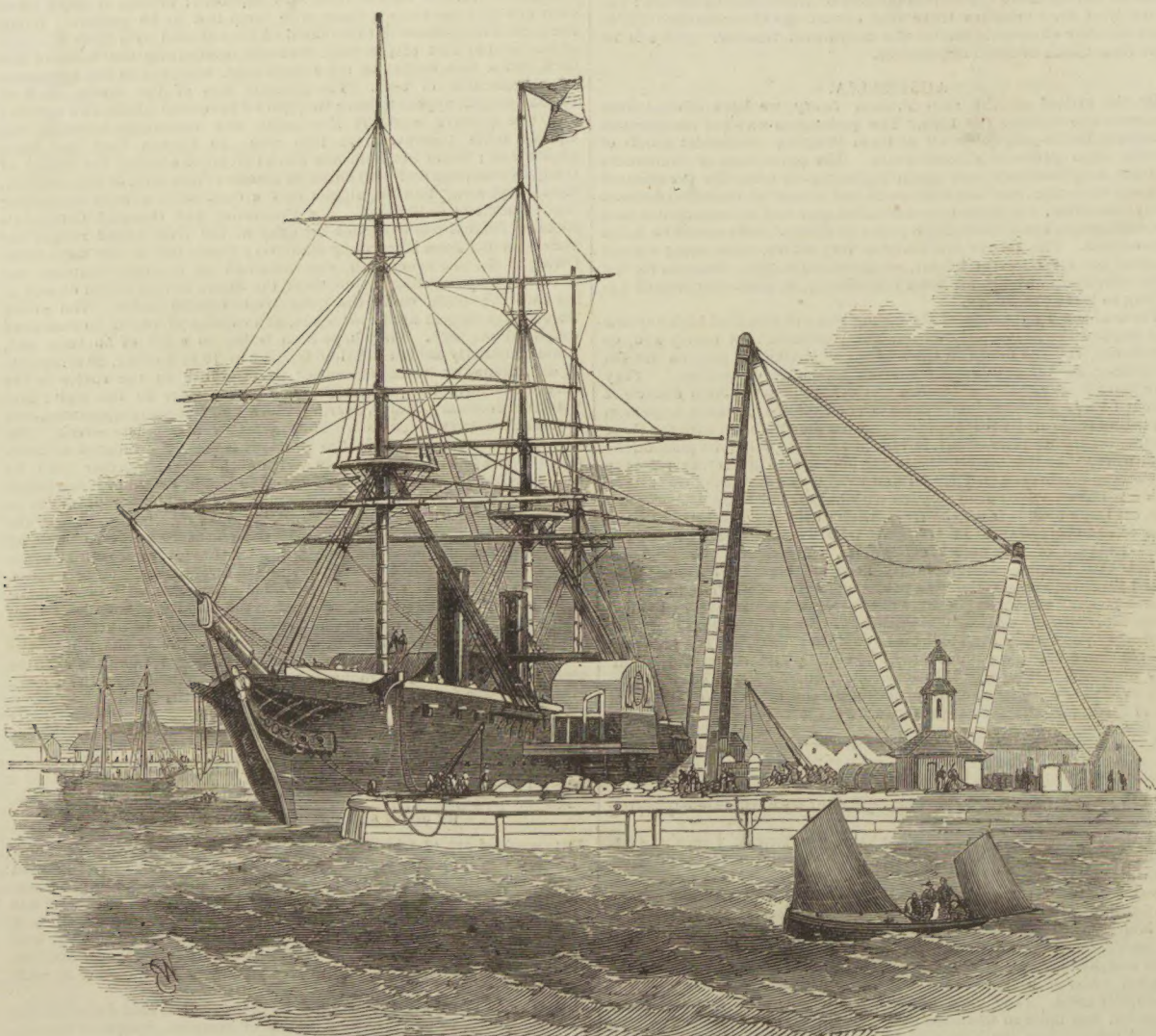




H.M. SHIP "PENELOPE" DESTROYING THE TOWN OF GRAND TABOO.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE ADMIRAL RECEIVING KING DUCIMO ON BOARD "THE PENELOPE," OFF LAGOS.



SHEERS AND REPAIRING QUAY, SOUTHAMPTON DOCK.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

sweep of which, terminating in graceful lines, falling over a cannon sculptured in base, invests the entire figure with true classic feeling. There is a calm dignity and thoughtful expression in the countenance of Lord De Saumares which harmonise well with his character, for he



MARBLE STATUE OF LORD DE SAUMARES, RECENTLY PLACED IN GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

was no less distinguished for sagacity than bravery; uniting, during his long and arduous career in his country's service, all the essentials of a skilful statesman and a daring warrior. The introduction of the telescope, united with the unostentatious attitude of the figure, is very suggestive, and we at once imagine De Saumares engaged weighing well the result of his observations, when, after having discovered the ships of the enemy, he is about to engage in some of those heroic naval achievements with which his name has been identified.

#### MEMORIAL AT HONG-KONG.

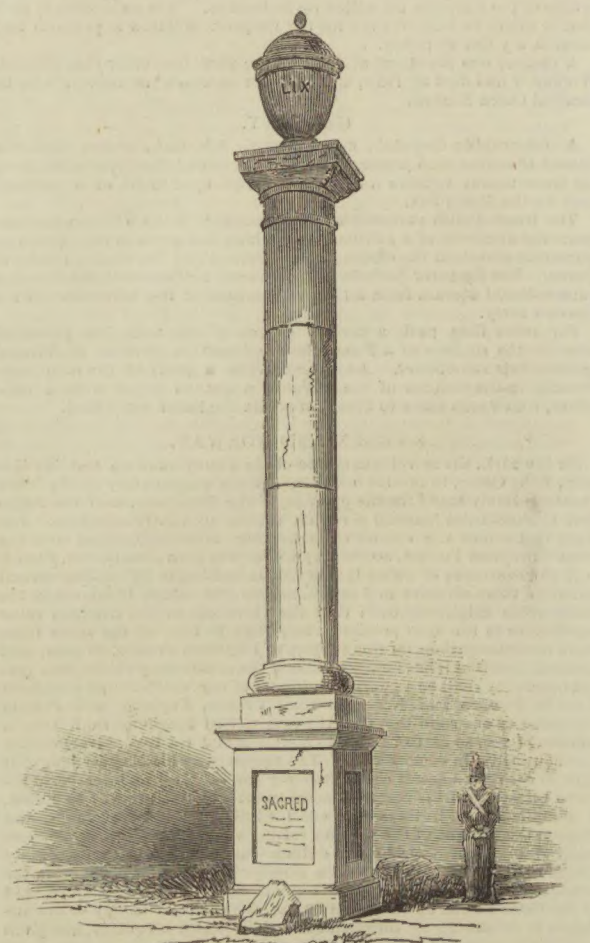
THIS Monument has recently been erected at Hong-Kong, in the Wong-nei-Chung (mis-named the "Happy Valley"), by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and private soldiers of the 59th Regiment, to the memory of their deceased comrades, and of the women and children, who have died since the regiment embarked at Cork, on the 11th June 1849. The height of the entire monument is 30 feet, in eight pieces of solid granite. The inscription is as follows:—

*North Side:* Sacred to the Memory of all those of the 59th Regiment who have died between the 11th June, 1849, and the ——— \*

*South Side:* Erected by the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers of the 59th Regiment.

*East Side:* Quartermaster Wm. McDonald, Surgeon G. W. Powell, Surgeon A. Campbell.

*West Side:* — \* Sergeants, — Corporals — Drummers, — Privates, — Women, — Children.

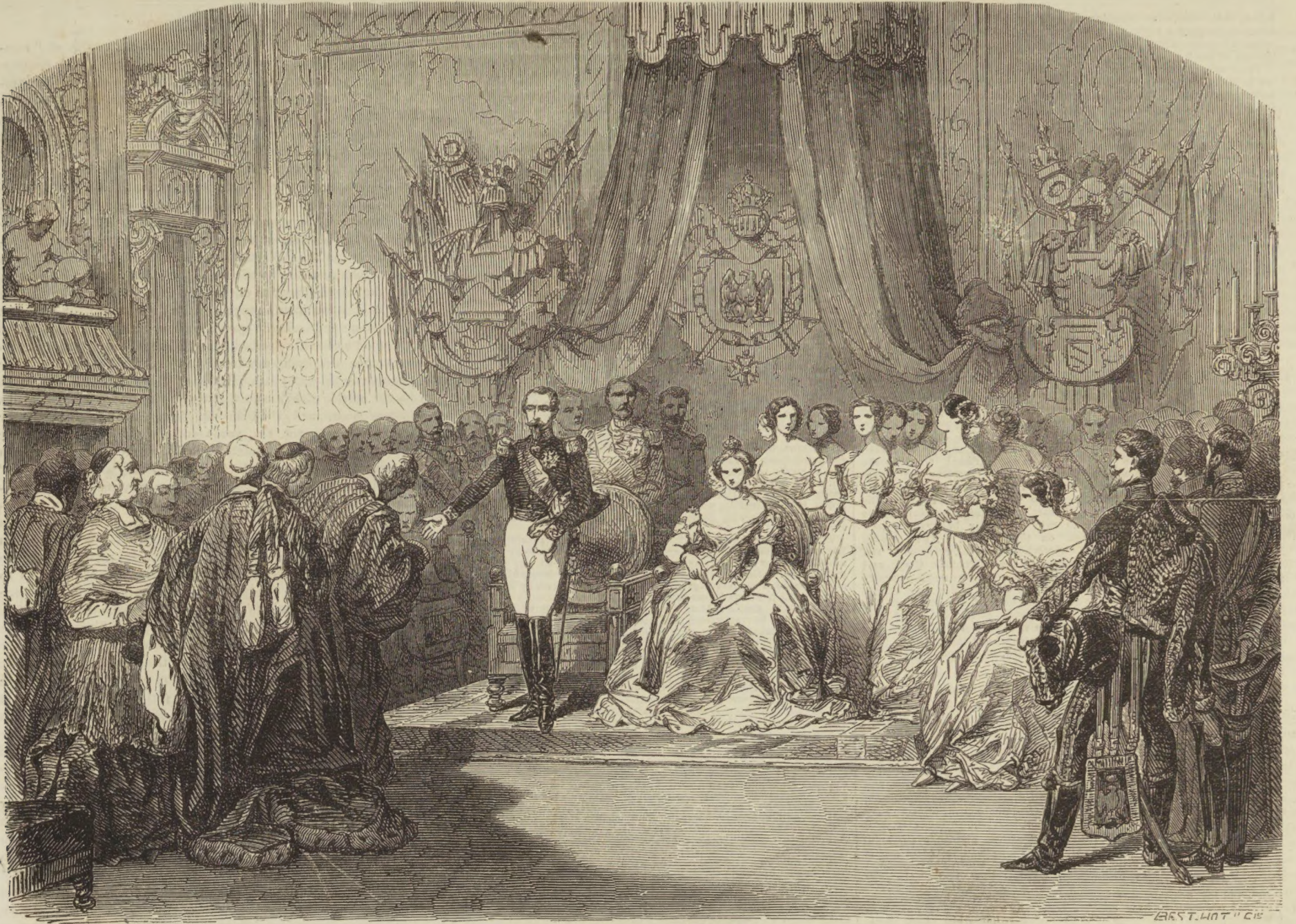


MILITARY MEMORIAL LATELY ERECTED AT HONG-KONG.

Up to the 25th of September the Regiment had lost 2 surgeons, 1 quartermaster, 12 sergeants, 9 corporals, 3 drummers, 213 privates, 15 women, and 41 children. The above numbers are exclusive of those who have died on the passage home, after having been invalided in Hong-Kong.

\* To be filled in when the Regiment leaves Hong-Kong.





NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION BY THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF THE FRENCH, AT THE TUILERIES.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

NEW YEAR'S FESTIVITIES AND JUVENILE PARTIES  
IN FRANCE.

ALTHOUGH the French have no Christmas-day, they have a Christmas time as well as the English: the season of balls, fêtes, juvenile parties, and

the interchange of visits, which commences with New-year's-day, and is carried as far into the months of January or February as people please. "Coming events cast their shadows before," is the beautiful but hackneyed expression of the poet; but it may be said, with equal reason, that some "coming events cast their glory before;" and this view of the

question applies admirably to the season of uvenile parties, both in England and in France. For does not the party accepted three weeks in advance cast its long bright halo before it in the imagination of juveniles? Who shall depict worthily and truthfully the pleasures of the interim, when the thought of the glad event so occupies the youthful



JUVENILE EVENING PARTY, AT PARIS.



mind, that what with brooding over it during the day, and dreamin about it during the night, the young ladies and gentlemen almost fancy, when it has actually taken place, that they have been to a dozen parties instead of one?

First comes the postman with the letters. See how leisurely he walks along, with what *sang-froid*, with what indifference, although he holds in his hand the magic missive that shall make a dozen hearts leap for joy! O shame! he is going to pass by—but no, he hesitates, he stops, he turns back, with a neat little envelope between his forefinger and his thumb. Then the ring at the bell (they have no knockers in France), then the delivery of something to the *concierge*, then the sound of the postman going down the steps—then the delivery of the letters at each successive stage or apartment—then the greedy snatch at the unconscious letter—then the breathless silence while Julie breaks the seal and reads the precious contents—and then the mingled cries of happy voices, and the bustle to and fro. O, what power in a senseless piece of paper that can move the life-springs of so many living creatures! Of course they accept with great pleasure the kind invitation, &c., and make all the preliminaries for the joyous occurrence. And, when at length the day arrives, be sure it will find no pouting lips in this happy family; but all the bright eyes, and shining teeth, and glittering dresses, will give the lie to those grumblers of the press who will persist in declaring that France has no longer any festivities, and that the dark shadow of the approaching war has shut up the usual sources of rejoicing. What cares the juvenile for the Emperor Nicholas? Not a straw. *Vive la danse! Vive la joie!*

#### THE NEW YEAR'S RECEPTION AT THE TUILERIES.

THE Levee usually held on the 1st of the New Year took place on Sunday week, in the superb Throne-room of the Tuileries, with the state represented in the Illustration upon the preceding page.

The Ministers, grand functionaries of State, the Judges of the Courts of Law, the Cardinals and Bishops, Canons, Marshals, Generals, and superior officers of the National Guard, the members of the Diplomatic Corps, all in costume of ceremony, were punctual in attendance. It was considered probable that the Emperor would address a few words at the moment the Representatives of the Foreign Powers presented the salutations usual on such occasions; and, as may be easily believed, a good deal of curiosity was manifested on the subject. After saying a few words to the Nuncio, which were not overheard, the Emperor addressed the other members of the Diplomatic Corps, and said, in substance, and very nearly in words, as follows:—"I sincerely hope to be able to maintain the relations of amity which now subsist between my Government and the Sovereigns whose Representatives you are;" and, turning to the Ottoman Ambassador, he added:—"My good wishes, my sympathies, and my efforts are in favour of your Sovereign; and you will be good enough to communicate what I say to him." He then bowed to the Ambassadors, and the rest of the ceremony proceeded.

#### THE ARCTIC SEARCH.

A DESPATCH has been received from Captain Maguire, giving an account of the Arctic Expedition, from his leaving Port Clarence, on the morning of the 21st August, 1852, till the vessel was released from her icy prison, near the Esquimaux settlement, on Point Barrow, in August, 1853. Among the first of the incidents mentioned by Captain Maguire is the trouble which he had with the natives, some of whom were unfriendly, and nearly all dishonest. A great deal of forbearance was manifested towards them for the sake of the objects of the expedition, notwithstanding very gross provocation. Sometimes, however, they were obliged to be taught a lesson, as in the following instance:—

During the forenoon several "u-mi-aks" arrived alongside the ship, discharging their crews in swarms on our deck, so as literally to crowd it for the day. They were allowed every freedom consistent with their known propensity for stealing; but some, bolder than others, were difficult to deal with. One man attempted to force back the after ladder-boards, and my stopping him brought about a slight scuffle between us. That did not seem to have satisfied him, as he soon afterwards came in contact with the quartermaster of the watch, a quiet but rather short-tempered powerful young man, who, before anybody could interfere, gave him a lesson he will not soon forget: he dealt him fair English blows about the head, each of them sufficient to stun any one except an Esquimaux; but he received them until they had the effect of quite taming him, when he was put over the side in the presence of at least sixty of his countrymen, few of whom offered to interfere, and the remainder looked on with indifference.

Arrangements were subsequently made to allow only a few on board at a time, which the captain was at great pains to explain to the chiefs in order that it might not be misunderstood; still little difficulties occurred from the numerous thefts which the natives committed.

A more serious affair took place on board the ship. The officer in charge, Mr. Hull, second master, in keeping back a large powerful man, who attempted to force his way over the side, had a knife drawn on him by a friend of the other on board the ship, who immediately called out for the women and children to retire. Mr. Simpson, the surgeon, was standing near, and very soon produced before the man with the knife one of Colt's revolving pistols, and explained to him the use of his six charges, which had the effect of keeping them very quiet for the remainder of the day. I met the women and children re-appearing over the ice ahead of the ship, and thought something must have happened, although they told me they were going home to dinner. A chief, arriving at the same time, reassured the retreating party, when we explained to them that if they used knives we must use guns, but otherwise we wished to be good friends. Similar squabbles took place frequently. This was a cause of a good deal of anxiety with me, as our men, being unarmed, were very much at their mercy under such circumstances; and, in the event of arming them, more forbearance was necessary than some of them would have been found to possess, from the frequent provocations they had received in return for the usual kindness and good-nature that characterise seamen. On giving the subject every consideration, and seeing that it must excite an unpleasant feeling for our men to have knives pointed at them without a means of defence being at hand, the quartermaster of the watch, and two petty officers of the party working on shore, were armed with pistols, but properly cautioned not to produce them unless under circumstances of necessity, as I hoped the mere knowledge of their having them would be sufficient. Of this we soon had an instance. One of them played off one of their usual practical jokes on one of our men, by kicking him in the back of the knees when carrying a spar, for which he was rewarded with a blow on the face. He then drew his knife, when the corporal of marines coming up, and being known to have a pistol, the offender ran away. These sort of annoyances continued as long as our men had work to do outside of the ship.

On another occasion the natives showed a very riotous disposition, so much so, indeed, as to require a sharper mode of dealing with them, as he thus relates:—

We observed with our glasses an unusual stir at the settlement. In the first place, some women and children were seen moving across the bay to Cape Smyth; afterwards the men were seen advancing down towards the ship in three single files, armed with their bows and arrows and quivers. I fancied at this time I saw spears also, but did not observe them afterwards. The leading men were discharging their arrows ahead of them as they advanced, picking them up again as they reached them, which satisfied me their visit was not friendly, and my mind was soon made up to keep them in check at the distance of musket range, by firing over their heads, wishing above all things to avoid taking a life, unless under some urgent necessity. Our small force, forty-one in all, was placed under command of the officers appointed to guard the gangways, poop, and fore-castle, and previous to their getting within range, a blank charge was fired from our 18-pound carronade and a 24-pounder from the gun, which had not the effect of dispersing them, as I expected, and when within musket range we commenced firing over them from the fore-castle. This had the effect of dispersing them under shelter of the spit, about fifty yards from the ship's bows. At this time one of the chiefs, who had been on board frequently, and treated with every kindness, made a rush down ahead of the ship, followed at first by others; but when he found the balls whistling over his head he dropped on his face to avoid them, running a few paces closer to the ship, threw down his bow and quiver, containing seventeen arrows, four of them with barbed iron heads. This man had become very unpopular with the crew, from some uncivil acts of his; and I have been able to understand since, that, although the order to fire over his head was carried out, this direction was very much infringed upon. A few now extended themselves under cover of the house, but, as a constant fire was kept up in that direction, not many attempted to reach it; and a round shot, being fired so as to graze it, had the effect of dislodging them. At this time a false alarm was given that they were breaking down the house and carrying things away. I was on the fore-castle, and, on hearing the report, ordered a man next me, a marine, to fire at a boat then escaping from under cover of it, and, from the sudden way he seemed to fall and kick out his legs, I thought he was killed. Immediately afterwards the report was found to be incorrect, and no more shots were fired at them; and I had the satisfaction to find out that the man fired at (the only instance) was not killed.

After this, the captain and some of the crew paid visits to the Esquimaux settlement, and friendly intercourse continued, though with partial interruptions, owing to the felonious propensities of the natives. One

of the natives was shot by accident on the 8th of June, and the misadventure, on being explained, was attributed to the right cause. Whilst these proceedings were going on, two of the officers fell in with a chief who had been previously seen by Capt. Pullen; and from this man they obtained some interesting information as to the migratory habits of the natives. In May they found a native, who brought them papers, showing that Commander McClure had been making his passage along shore in the *Investigator*. On the 9th of July, Capt. Maguire left the ship with the gig and whale-boat for Cape Lisburne. The boats were lost in this expedition, but the whole party returned to the ship in safety. On the 25th of July, the ice having cleared away for a considerable space round the ship, preparations were made to move off; and on August 7, at eight p.m., Capt. Maguire left the anchorage where he had found shelter for eleven months and four days. On the 10th he fell in with the *Amphitrite*, with which he returned to Port Clarence, the point from which he originally set out.

#### PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

##### BREAD RIOTS IN DEVONSHIRE.

The dearth of food has led to serious disturbances in Devonshire within the last few days. The first breach of the peace took place at Crediton, about eight miles from Exeter, where a mob of navvies and labourers, thrown out of employment in consequence of the snow, assembled on Friday evening week, armed with sticks and stones, and proceeded to the shops of the principal bakers, demanding a supply of bread. This having been refused, missiles were hurled through the windows, and the mob helped themselves. In some instances the shopkeepers heard of the approach of the rioters, and closed their shutters without any loss of time. This precaution, however, was of little avail: the shutters were beaten in with immense sticks, and the men seemed determined to have all they could lay their hands upon. The parish constables attempted to interfere, but they were powerless. Mr. Buller, a county magistrate, having arrived, a number of special constables were sworn in, who prevented any further outrage. On Saturday morning a band of fifty navvies went through the market, and one of them seized a pound of butter throwing down a shilling. The woman told him the price was 1s. 4d.; but he coolly remarked, with an oath, that 1s. was a fair price, and walked off. This daring conduct had such an intimidating effect upon the rest of the market people, that within a short time they all packed up their goods, and the market was cleared. No further outrage was committed, arrangements having been made by the authorities in case of any disturbance.

Similar outbreaks are said to have taken place at Barnstaple and Tiverton. In the former place, where the North Devon Railway ends, there is a large number of "navvies;" while in Tiverton there are many factory people, who during the late severe weather were thrown out of employ, in consequence of the freezing of the water in the river, by which the machinery was prevented from working.

On Monday similar disturbances took place at Exeter, in consequence of the bakers having raised the price of the four-pound loaf to 9d. A number of bakers' shops were attacked by a mob, consisting chiefly of labourers' wives. One shop was smashed. In one or two instances the bakers threw out their bread to the mob, who were thus appeased, and proceeded on to other shops. The military were called out, and pursued the rioters to Alphington and Exminster, two villages in the neighbourhood. At the former place, they ransacked the bakers' shops, and carried off the bread and other articles. At Exminster, they attacked the premises of Mr. Troad, a wealthy farmer, took away a variety of articles, and helped themselves to a quantity of cider. Twenty-five young men and boys were apprehended, and are now in custody.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.—A crowded and enthusiastic public meeting was held at the Town-hall, Sheffield, on Monday evening, "for the purpose of considering the propriety of memorialising her Majesty to give immediate effective material aid to Turkey in resisting the Emperor of Russia, who has now thrown off all disguise, and commenced a wanton and aggressive war." The meeting was convened by the Mayor, in compliance with a requisition, numerous and respectfully signed, containing, among others, a large number of the names of the members of the corporation. A series of resolutions were passed, condemnatory of the aggressions of Russia, justifying the Turks in their resistance, and calling upon the English and French Governments to compel Russia to re-cross the Pruth by force of arms. It was also resolved that an address, embodying the resolutions, be presented to her Majesty. The Mayor having objected to two paragraphs in the address, which referred to certain charges against an illustrious personage near the throne, they were expunged. Alderman Carr, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Mayor, said, in reference to some previous observations, that a better Sovereign than our present Queen never graced the throne of England, and a better Prince had never sat near to it than Prince Albert. The latter remark called forth disapprobation from several parts of the meeting.

EAST GLOUCESTERSHIRE ELECTION.—The nomination for East Gloucestershire took place on Monday, in the Shire-hall, Gloucester. The show of hands having been in favour of Mr. Holland, the Liberal candidate, a poll was demanded on behalf of Sir M. H. H. Beach, and appointed to take place on Thursday. There has been no contest in the division since 1834, when Sir C. W. Codrington was returned by a majority of 70, nearly 6000 electors having polled on the occasion.

THE WAGES MOVEMENT.—The Preston operatives still remain obstinate. Masters and men have been publishing placards last week, each party in defence of its own views. The men show that there is great disparity in the list of prices. The masters contend that such lists do not show what a man really can earn. Owing to the improvements in machinery, the operatives in the employment of Mr. Hollins can now earn 80 per cent more than they did in 1847; and yet it was against this employer that the operatives began the late turn-out. The amount distributed in relief by the committee last week was £3705 16s. 3d. One of the collectors of the fund for the support of the operatives absconded, a few days ago, with £160 of the money collected.

A SNOW PLOUGH.—One of these powerful instruments was in operation on one of the railways during the obstructions of last week, and is thus described by an eye witness. The plough was propelled by five engines, linked together, and attaining such a speed that the wheels were literally glowing with fire, from excessive friction. On entering the snow-drifts, the machine thus urged appeared irresistible for a time, and the snow flew in millions of particles—till engines, tenders, drivers, and everything seemed to disappear in clouds of fleecy whiteness, and were utterly lost to sight. When at last the train was brought to a stand by the resistance of the snow, it was taken back, and the attack thus renewed again and again.

THE TIGER in the menagerie at Hull has had its nails pared at last, without any accident. Mr. Taylor, veterinary surgeon, was the operator; and several medical gentlemen were present to advise and assist in the operation. Sponges, well saturated with chloroform, were fastened to the end of long staves, and held to the tiger's nose. He broke several of these, and seemed disposed, in this unceremonious way, to disappoint all expectations of success. For some time no opportunity was afforded of performing the operation; but, when 2 lbs. 8 oz. of chloroform had been used, the animal was so far stupified as to induce Mr. Taylor to commence. Still, it was a task very far from pleasant to commence the operation. Ropes were got round the animal's neck, and his head was drawn close to the bars of the den, and the animal kept close down, so as to prevent the struggles which he was expected to make. By Mr. Taylor's exertions, also, smaller ropes were slipped over each of the tiger's paws, which not only rendered him helpless, but were of use in pulling each paw, as wanted, under the bars, to have the claws drawn, which was speedily done by the aid of a pair of forceps. Since the operation he has continued hearty.

MYSTERIOUS AND FATAL CATASTROPHE.—Thomas Longbottom, a young man, residing in Hunslet-road, near Leeds, married the daughter of a farmer on Christmas-day last, and took her home to the house of his father, a railway contractor, with whom the newly-married couple lived on the most amicable terms. On Saturday last, the husband and wife visited Leeds, apparently happy in each other's company; and they are said to have taken some wine together at a house where they called. In the evening they returned home, and went to bed at the usual hour. Next morning, about seven o'clock, a person passing the house found the young wife lying in her night-dress, in a state of insensibility, upon a platform about two yards from the road, and protected at the sides by iron palisades, immediately under the bed-room window, which was wide open. An examination of a wound she had sustained on the forehead left no doubt that she had fallen from her chamber window, and came in contact with the palisades. On search being made for the husband, it was at once observed that the snow had been traversed by naked human feet; and following a track thus made, leading from the house into the garden, over a wall seven feet high, and across several fields to the side of the river Aire, a search was made in the water, and just where the foot-prints terminated was found the lifeless body of the missing young man, attired only in his night-shirt. Here the facts of the case end. The rest is involved in the greatest mystery. The father of the deceased is unable to afford the slightest additional information, and the wife still remains in such a state of insensibility as renders her return to consciousness extremely improbable. The most likely conjecture seems to be, that the husband, either in a dream, or while under sudden and temporary aberration of mind, must have left his bed, opened the window, and leaped into the street; and that the wife, alarmed for his safety, must have rushed to drag him back, and been drawn after him into the street.

The Committee of the House of Assembly in Washington had unanimously resolved to present Captain Ingraham with a medal for his conduct in the *Koesta* affair.

#### "COMMON THINGS."

LORD ASHBURTON has drawn attention to the neglect of "common things" in the education of the lower classes in this country. His Lordship, being a practical man, has offered prizes for proficiency in the knowledge, and in the teaching, of those common things which he and all other sensible men consider essential. It is likely that good will result from the example. It is the great defect of English schools, both for high and low, that common things are so commonly disregarded in them. The rich are taught the dead languages and mathematics, and, if not well skilled in Euclid, know a great deal of the history and manners of a departed civilisation. The poor are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic—that is to say if they are taught anything; and are indoctrinated in the Bible and the Catechism long before they are able to understand or appreciate either. At ten or twelve years of age, the school education of the poor child (provided always that he has been fortunate enough to have been sent to any school at all) is at an end. At the age of fourteen or sixteen the youth of the middle class has finished his studies, and must turn them to account in the great market of life. At the age of twenty or twenty-one the rich youth bids farewell to his college, and mixes in the world with the best grace he can, with Horace at his fingers' ends, and Ovid in his imagination. But neither the rich man, nor the youth of the middle classes, nor the poor boy, is indebted to his teachers for much knowledge of what Lord Ashburton calls "common things." The rich man knows nothing of the mechanism of the steam-engine. If he know anything of the electric telegraph, of contemporary history, of the laws, of the trade, or of the resources of his own country, he has to thank himself for the use of his ears and eyes, and not his preceptors for their instruction. There is not one in a thousand of the middle-class youth who knows so common a thing as the properties of the atmosphere, or the structure of his own body, and the laws which maintain it in health, comfort, and activity. The poor boy, if his intellect have not been dulled by the abuse of the Bible as a spelling-book, may know a little of sacred history; but of the history of England, or of Europe, he knows as little as the clod which he turns or the shoes which he cobbles. The poor girl may have learned at the Sunday-school that she is a "child of wrath," and "born in sin;" but she knows nothing of the duties or homely accomplishments that might qualify her to be a good and thrifty wife of a peasant or an artisan—unless the use of the needle be an exception. But, if she have only been a Sunday scholar, needle-work is profane, and she must owe her knowledge of it to her busy and over-wrought mother, or be ignorant of it altogether. The teachers of poor boys and girls have not considered it necessary to teach them "common things." Real education only begins when school ends. In the first three years of its life, every infant teaches itself more than all the professors of all the Universities would be able to teach it in twice the time. Clever people always owe more to themselves than to those who pretend to have the care of their childhood and youth. As regards the children of the poor, the effect of this limited or erroneous system of tuition is more injurious than in the case of the rich. People well to do in the world pick up their most valuable knowledge from day to day; the poor are obliged to labour incessantly for their daily bread, and have no such opportunities. Worthy and well-meaning individuals, who have founded or encouraged Sunday or day-schools, have prided themselves too often for having given education where they gave none at all. The poor child, thanks to their efforts, knows all about the Brook Kedron, but nothing of the River Thames—all about Jerusalem, but nothing of London, Paris, St. Petersburg, or New York. It can spell all the hard words in "Leviticus," while it knows nothing whatever of the principles of mechanics or agriculture, or of the wondrous civilisation, of the age in which it lives. Religious teaching is essential; but it is not sufficient. Even those who insist upon it as the "be all and end all" for the poor, do not act upon the principle in their own case; and, if they move in a respectable sphere of society, think it incumbent upon them to know something of secular and mundane affairs. It is right and proper that young children of both sexes should read the Bible; but as they live in a world of "common things"—a world where "common things" are the grandest gifts of a beneficent and all-wise Creator—they ought, at the same time, to know something which shall fit them more completely for the active duties of this mortal life—in which it is decreed that man shall live by the sweat of his brow—and in which he cannot live by the sweat of his brow if he be ignorant of the means by which he is to subdue nature and turn it to his own profitable uses—to feed, to clothe, and to shelter himself, and to rise from the condition of the savage to that of the civilised Christian.

We do not attempt to undervalue the importance of religious education; we would merely insist that it is not all-sufficient. The rich and the comfortable never consider it sufficient in their own cases. It is only when they undertake the education of the destitute that they object to secular knowledge. Many of the opponents of a national system of education, which shall include innocent children as well young thieves, justify their opposition by alleging as a fact that the education of the poor has already been amply provided for by the voluntary exertions of religious sects and communities. They cite statistics in support of the assertion; but as every child that goes to a Sunday-school, although it may go to no other, figures in this imposing array, the friends of a more complete system may be excused for treating these tabular fallacies as of little value. To teach writing and arithmetic is considered a desecration of the Sabbath-day in the great majority of Sunday-schools. Such a course of education may satisfy a proud sectarianism, anxious to make, or to appear to make, converts; but it does not satisfy common sense or the wants of the age. Sunday-school instruction is, doubtless, far better than none, but a great and wealthy nation like England, having it in its power to do so much, ought not to be contented with doing so little. Thanks to the innate energy of the British character, this necessary knowledge of "common things" is more widely spread among the middle and upper classes than in any other part of the world, with the exception of the United States. It was the study of common things that produced Arkwright, Hargreaves, Bolton, Watt, and Fulton. It was a knowledge of "common things" that gave us the locomotive en-



gine, the railroad, and the electric wires, and that has made us the most enterprising, the most industrious, and the most prosperous people in the world. But we became all this, and shall become much more, not by the aid, but in spite of the education given to our people. There remains, however, a large substratum of society which has not the advantage of any education at all, and which might help us in the struggle to maintain our proud pre-eminence, if we would extend to them some portion of the advantages which they cannot obtain for themselves. The poor require secular knowledge to enable them to become good workpeople, and to live and thrive. In default of it, hundreds of thousands remain destitute, and in due time become criminal. Every one knows the not quite hopeless, but often heart-breaking, trouble that it costs the State and benevolent individuals to reclaim and to educate the young outcasts of society; but all the world is unfortunately not convinced of the comparative facility with which they might be educated into virtuous and intelligent citizens, if they were taught and cared for at the proper time. Squalor, filth, obscenity, and dishonesty are the only "common things" that most of them understand, unless the pursuing policeman, the stern judge, and the relentless gaoler, may be considered to extend their knowledge a little further. The good chaplain gives his ministrations at too late, and for too short, a period to be of much service. The question incidentally raised by Lord Ashburton, has a deeper root than perhaps even his Lordship imagined. The neglect of it has already done us much injury, and thrown upon us much merited obloquy. If we are again to become a fighting nation, the necessities and temptations of war will doubtless greatly diminish the numbers of our destitute and criminal population; but if we would enjoy the blessings of peace—when peace shall again be restored to us—we should teach our poor what the rich and the comfortable teach themselves, that man is made for this world as well as for the next, and that to be ignorant of the uses and benefits of the "common things" which surround us, is to be practically ungrateful to Heaven for the blessings which it has bestowed upon us, and to degrade ourselves, by our apathy and ignorance, into the condition of savages.

## MUSIC.

THE WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERT of this week consisted of the materials prepared for last week's concert, which (as we mentioned) was postponed in consequence of the severity of the weather. It was the weakest concert of the series. Indeed it is impossible to make a strong concert in London at a time when almost all our principal performers are absent from town. The chief attraction was Madame Amedei, who seemed conscious of the necessity for the exertion of all her powers, and certainly did exert them most effectively; particularly in the splendid scena, "Pensa alla patria," from Rossini's "Italiana in Algeri," in which the charms of her lovely voice were shown to the greatest advantage. The only other singer of note was Mr. Augustus Braham, whose performance of the celebrated song in Weber's "Oberon," "Oh, 'tis a glorious sight to see," was received with much applause. There were solos on the pianoforte, harp, and violin, by young players, who showed promising talents; but something more than promise is expected at a great concert like this. We trust that the directors of these concerts, who appear to have always done their best, will next week have it in their power to produce a stronger programme.

SIGNOR MARCHESI, who for several seasons has held a distinguished place in the London concert-rooms, is at present in Italy. He has an engagement at Ferrara, as *primo baritone assoluto*, during the Carnival; and made his first appearance on the 26th of December, as *Charles the Fifth*, in Verdi's "Ernani," with great success.

## THE THEATRES, &amp;c.

## DRURY-LANE.

Mr. Mark Lemon had a three-act drama produced at this theatre on Monday. It is entitled "Paula Lazarro; or, the Ladrone's Daughter." The scene is laid in Spain, and the story extends over a considerable period. The action consists of the consequences of a feud between the houses of Tavoro and Lazarro. *Gideon Lazarro* (Mr. T. Mead), apparently a blind beggar, but really a ruined nobleman, seeks revenge for the destruction of his family. He is accompanied in his wanderings by *Paula* (Mrs. E. Lewis) his daughter, who guards him with tender affection, but revolts from his plans of vengeance. They do not appear until the second act; when the old father leagues with the brigand *José Maria* (Mr. G. Bennett), who undertakes to surprise the château of the *Marquis of Tavoro*, and effect the abduction of his daughter, *Juana* (Miss Featherstone). This purpose is effected at a masked ball. Soon after, *Paula* discovers that *Juana* is her long-lost sister, who had been taken away by the former Marquis. She has a lover, one *Pablo* (Mr. Belton), a supposed mulatto, who, in like manner, turns out to be the son of the *Marquis*. In the *mélée* which succeeds, this state of things *Gideon* is shot by soldiers in pursuit of the brigands. Mr. Mead, in this character, won much applause; and Miss Featherstone, an encore for one of her two songs. The scenery and costume were picturesque; and the action of the play was accompanied by melodramatic music, the composition of Mr. Alfred Mellon. Altogether, the piece may be accounted a success, though not of the class which we should prefer witnessing on the classic boards of this theatre.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—On Monday the annual juvenile soirée took place in the spacious rooms of the above institution. The members of the club, with their juvenile friends, began to assemble at seven o'clock. From 200 to 300 prettily-dressed children shortly commenced dancing; which was varied with conjuring tricks by Mr. Farley, and dissolving views by Mr. Cox. The children were served with supper in the drawing-room, and afterwards kept up dancing till after midnight, when they retired, highly delighted with their entertainment at the Whittington Club.

WOODCOCKS have been very plentiful this season in Appin-Arlyle. On the 5th inst. a friend of Miles Lockhart, Esq., shot 1½ couple of cocks, and 6 braces of snipe, in 3½ hours, at Ardsheal, Appin, N.B.

CHEAP NOVELS.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS).—"24, Cockspur-street, January 5th, 1854.—In your article on Literature, Art, &c., of last week, you mention our names in connection with Mr. Bentley's new scheme of publishing novels at a reduced price, and that he was not supported by the circulating libraries. How far he was encouraged by others, we know not; for ourselves, we can say that we took three times the number of copies we should have taken at the old price of 3s. 6d. We trust that you will give this explanation, in order that those who take an interest in cheap literature may know that we did not offer any impediment to its well-working. Your obedient servants, CANTHORN and HUTT."

DISTRESS IN LONDON.—A meeting of the inhabitants of St. Saviour's, Southwark, was held in the vestry-room of St. Saviour's Church, on Tuesday, to consider the distressed condition of the poor, from want of labour and the high price of provisions and fuel, and to devise the necessary measures for their temporary relief. The prolonged severity of the weather, combined with the great dearth of coals and bread, has brought upon large numbers of deserving poor persons considerable want and suffering. Various resolutions, approving of the above object for the welfare of their poorer neighbours, were passed, and subscriptions entered into.

MARYLEBONE FREE LIBRARY.—The reading-rooms of this institution—the first of the kind established in the metropolis—were opened for the gratuitous admission of the public, at 27, Gloucester-place, New-road, on Monday. The books are arranged round the rooms on the first-floor of the house, tables being placed in the centre for the convenience of readers. The name of the institution is local, but persons of any locality have free access to the books. The library already possesses about 5000 volumes, comprising works in all branches of literature, and endeavours are being made to increase the number.

Verdi's "Luisa Miller" has been given at the Oriente, in Madrid, with great success; Mdle. Gazaniga, as the heroine, is very highly spoken of.

## EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Lord Brougham is expected to leave his chateau at Cannes at the close of next week for Paris, en route to London. The noble Lord, who is now in his 75th year, is in the enjoyment of good health.

It is stated that Lord Harris, whose period of service as Governor of Trinidad will shortly expire, has been offered the Governorship of Madras. Captain Charles Elliot, R.N., now Governor of Bermuda, is spoken of as the new Governor of Trinidad.

The *New Prussian Gazette* lately announced the mobilisation of the entire Russian army; adding, that the measure would enable the Czar to dispose of 2,000,000 soldiers.

Captain Hast, the oldest and one of the most experienced commanders in the Royal West India Mail Steam Packet Company, and who was the commodore of their fleet, has retired from their service.

With reference to the trade with Russia at the present juncture, it is of some interest to know that large purchases of grain have been made with "hand money," as usual, with the provision that it will be returned in the event of hostilities preventing its shipment.

There died at Moscow, on the 11th of October, a soldier, named Peter Sosnowsky, aged 122 years, 1 month, and 25 days.

Mr. Edward Johnstone Manley is appointed Colonel Auditor; Mr. John Foster, Accountant of Stores; Mr. Francis Smith, Solicitor-General; and Edward McDowell, Crown Solicitor—all in Van Diemen's Land.

The *Voce della Libertà* of Turin having been some time ago condemned for insults against Napoleon III., and having appealed, the Court of Appeal has just confirmed the sentence of the lower court.

The neighbourhood of Exeter has again been flooded to an extraordinary extent. On the Exeter and Crediton Railway it was found impossible to carry on the traffic.

A great curiosity has been exhibited on the Stock Exchange. It was a receipt for £1300 Consols, dated July 20, 1793, at the price of 47½, the purchase-money being only £620 16s. The above is nearly the lowest price Consols ever fell to.

A letter from Eisenach says:—"On Christmas-day, the Duchess of Orleans gave an abundant dinner to 400 poor persons of this place, and also distributed clothes to 400 poor children."

The Parliamentary estimate for constructing the Wellington Docks, Southwark, is set forth at £917,000; being £906,000 for the dock works, and £11,000 for the connecting tramway or railway.

There has been an increase in the exportation of soap since the duty was removed. In the month ended the 5th ult. the value of soap exported was £24,363, against £18,450 of the same month in the preceding year.

The Count de Peyronnet, formerly Minister of Justice under Louis XVIII., and afterwards Minister of the Interior under Charles X., has just expired, at Montferand, near Bordeaux, aged 77.

Mr. Milner Gibson has arrived at Malta from the Ionian Islands, and proceeds on by France to England.

The Peruvian Government has instructed its agents in this country to advance the price of guano to an amount equal to the advance in the rates of freights during the past year.

The orphan child of one of the oldest of the Irish baronets was admitted a few days since into the Wanstead Infant Orphan Asylum.

The committee of the Société Française de Bienfaisance have received from the Emperor of the French £40 in aid of the funds of their institution, for the relief of the French poor in this country.

Mr. John Sadleir, M.P., has ceased to be connected with her Majesty's Government. Lord Aberdeen has received the resignation of his office as one of the Junior Lords of the Treasury. It is rumoured that Mr. C. Fortescue, M.P. for the county of Louth, will succeed Mr. Sadleir.

The *Freeman's Journal* states, that "a commission has been sitting for some weeks, under order, to prepare a report on the proposed transfer of the heads of the Irish Post-office department to London."

J. H. O'Byrne Redmond, Esq., of Killoughter Hall, Ireland, has been appointed Chamberlain to his Holiness Pope Pius IX.

The Emigration Commissioners have chartered the following ships to take out emigrants to Australia—viz., the *Royal Charlie*, the *America*, the *Parade*, and the *Taymouth Castle*. The *Royal Charlie* is bound for Adelaide, and all the others for Melbourne.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, M.P., has named the 25th instant for his visit to Leeds. The annual soirée of the Mechanics' Institution and Literary Society, at which he is to preside, has been fixed to take place on that date.

In the Southampton graving dock there is a screw steamer with a boomerang propeller, the first that has been seen in Southampton water. The vessel is named the *Manilla*, and is intended for a collier in the China seas. She will carry nearly a thousand tons of coals.

In consequence of the very inclement weather, and other circumstances, the opening of the Londonderry, Seaham, and Sunderland Railway, which was to have taken place on the 17th January, is postponed until June.

The extramural cemetery for Islington has been adopted by the parish of St. Pancras, by vote: 997 for the cemetery, and 607 against it.

The Academy of Sciences, in Paris, have elected M. Tulasne a member in the section of botany, in the place of M. Jussieu, deceased.

The Czar of Russia was burnt in effigy a few days ago at Cupar—a band of music and torchbearers assisting.

The success of the New Stamp Act is immense. Already £400,000 more than Mr. Gladstone calculated has been realised. Some thirty-five millions have been sold.

The Russian clergy have offered to the Czar, from the large Church property, a sum of 20,000,000 roubles towards the war expenses with Turkey.

It is understood that a bill is in preparation for the abolition of the practice of locking up juries "without meat, drink, fire, or candles, until they come to a verdict."

Fires seem to be more numerous in Paris than even in London. In one day, lately, the pompiers, besides having to extinguish fires in twenty-eight chimneys, had nine serious conflagrations to combat between midday and six o'clock next morning.

The Duke of Richmond, it is stated, has sold his stud, and retired from the turf.

Captain Inglefield, under whom the late Lieut. Bellot served as a volunteer, has had an audience of the French Emperor. So has Dr. Bowring.

Raglan Castle, the seat of the Duke of Beaufort, narrowly escaped being burned down last week.

The printers of western and southern New York (says the *Le Roy Gazette*) are to celebrate the anniversary of Franklin's birthday, at Elmira, on the 17th of January.

The barque *Hannah Maria*, with 100 emigrants, has been lost off the south-east coast of Australia. Happily, no lives were lost.

An accident happened on the line last week, near Holyhead, the train getting off the rails, and running into a snow-drift. The driver and stoker were suffocated.

Three immense flights of wild ducks, and one of wild geese, passed over Cambridge last week. They were making their way in a southerly direction.

The number of vessels employed in the coasting-trade of the United Kingdom in the eleven months ended the 5th ult., that entered inwards, was 122,746, and the tonnage 11,808,440; while the number cleared outwards was 135,419, and the tonnage 12,485,518.

On Tuesday week Major Rait, of Anniston, was sledging in true Russian style through the streets of Brechin. Colonel Maule was also driving about in his sledge, with his brothers, Lord Panmure and the Hon. William Maule.

His Excellency Mr. Mason, the newly-appointed Minister from the United States to Paris, has arrived in London from Washington, en route to enter on his diplomatic duties.

The dearth of provisions in Poland has caused the Administrative Council at Warsaw to issue a decree prohibiting the exportation of every sort of corn and flour from Poland, dating from the 1st January.

The Earl of Portsmouth died at his seat in Hurstbourne Park, near Andover, on Monday. The deceased Peer, Newton Fellows, was born in 1772, and had succeeded his brother but a few months. His only surviving son, Viscount Lymington, now in his 29th year, becomes Earl of Portsmouth.

The mortality of the town and parish of Montrose for the year 1853 was 307. This is twenty less than 1852, and sixty-five less than the average of the preceding ten years.

A testimonial, consisting of a magnificent candelabrum, value £250, was presented to the Right Hon. George Banks, M.P., by his Dorsetshire admirers. The presentation took place on Wednesday, at a public dinner in the Town-hall of Dorchester.

The *Journal de Calais* mentions the arrest there of a person named Antoine Wenzel, a Saxon by birth, who had just landed from England. A pocket-book containing forged bank notes to the amount of 50,000 fr. is said to have been found on him.

Prince George Stourdza, son of the ex-Hospodar of Moldavia, has offered his services to the Sultan, who has accepted them; and the Prince was set out for the army of Omer Pacha, where he will command a brigade.

## TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &amp;c.

The question of an English copyright in books in America has again been under agitation at the Board of Trade; but the progress made in determining the question is neither very great nor, to English authors and publishers, very satisfactory. Jonathan wishes to deal out a hard measure to John Bull. The Americans possess, at present, an enormous advantage in the acquisition of English books. It is true that, at times, they give a little money for what they get—and give it, we believe, willingly; nay, some houses are, indeed, liberal, and would like to be still more liberal; but the feeling of the nation is, apparently, against any full recognition of an English author's claim to a copyright in America. There is a belief abroad, supported by a rumour from the Board of Trade, that a duty is about to be levied in America on the importation of new books from England, and that an English author's claim to a copyright in America shall only exist in cases where the type of the book has been actually set up, and the pages printed off by American hands. This, perhaps, to very popular authors will not be a very heavy tax, but it will have, we fear, a very different effect with books that do not rush immediately into reputation. The class of books requiring the kindest recognition by a nation, such as history and biography, will, under the rumoured treaty, receive the very least. This should not be.

A very useful society—the Shakespeare Society—terminated its labours on the first of the present month. This society had existed for twelve years, and has given to its members and to the public some really useful and important publications. If it failed to throw any valuable light on the life and works of Shakespeare, it was not from any want of activity or desire, but rather from the circumstances, only too well known, and too true, that diligence is ever failing in any endeavour to "unspere" Shakespeare. Not but what the society has contributed several points of minor value to the received story of Shakespeare's career, or that it has failed in throwing light on some of the obscure passages of his writings. The essential service, however, rendered by the society to our literature, has been in what it has done for Shakespeare's contemporaries. The forty-seven volumes issued by the society abound in most curious matter. What excellent materials are to be found in the "Registers of the Stationer's Company," the "Account-Book of Henslowe," and the lives of Alleyn and Inigo Jones. And how fine a print has the society supplied in Mr. Cousins's admirable mezzotint, after the Chandos portrait of Shakespeare. That print alone cost in the mere engraving one hundred and eighty guineas, and is a faithful and admirable translation of the original picture. The society's stock of books will, it is said, be sold. Mr. Cousins's plate was destroyed after seven hundred and fifty impressions were taken.

The reading-room of the British Museum was re-opened on Monday last, but without any visible improvements in the arrangement of the books and tables. The selection of works of reference on the shelves might be easily improved, and there is still a want of a printed catalogue of the books to which readers are allowed access without tickets of application. A great improvement might have been made in the interval, and at a small cost. The catalogues are placed at the furthest extremity of the room, and at the greatest possible distance from the station to which the reader is obliged to carry his ticket. He has, in fact, by the present arrangement, to pace the whole extent of the room before he can obtain the book he requires. This is not only inconvenient, but is annoying to readers. Either the person receiving the ticket should be placed nearer the catalogues, or the catalogues carried nearer to him. Though Mr. Panizzi is not over-fond of out-door suggestions, he will, perhaps, kindly look to the evil and its obvious remedy.

The daily papers announce the death of Mr. Maltby, the friend of Porson, and known to every frequenter of Mr. Rogers's breakfast-table, where his varied information was contrasted very favourably with the repartees of Sydney Smith, Mr. Rogers's own witticisms, and the ceaseless puns of Mr. Luttrell. As those we love decay, we die in part; and Mr. Rogers, who had lived in uninterrupted friendship with Mr. Maltby for more than eighty years, will indeed feel the loss of his early friend. Mr. Maltby was in his ninetieth year, and had seen and known many eminent men belonging to bygone generations. He linked us to the past—to the days of Porson and Sheridan, of Gray and Mason.

This linking with the past receives an admirable illustration in one of the new volumes of "Moore's Diary":—

In talking of the close *rapprochement* which long-lived individuals establish between distant periods of history, Lord Lansdowne said, as an instance that he himself had been acquainted with Sir Edward Baynton, who knew Sir Stephen Fox, who had been on the scaffold with Charles I. I mentioned, as another instance, William Spencer having, when a boy, played on the sofa with his grandfather, Lord Vere, who had done the same thing (played on a sofa), when a boy, with Charles II. Lord Lansdowne remarked, how curious it was to think that by this sort of links, the number of persons necessary to carry tradition down from the time of Adam to the present day might all be contained, with ease, in the room we sat in, calculating them, at a rough guess, about 70 persons.

We will not endorse the calculation of Lord Lansdowne, though his Lordship was, at one time, Chancellor of the Exchequer. We shall never, indeed, look upon Lord Lansdowne without saying to ourselves, Here is a living being who knew Sir Edward Baynton, who knew Sir Stephen Fox, who had stood, two hundred and four years ago, on the scaffold with Charles I.!

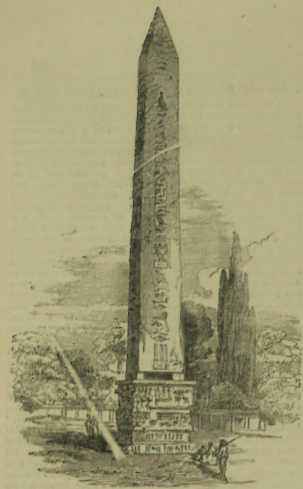
The recent death of the Principal of Brasenose, Mr. Harrington, at the age of fifty-two, is suggestive of a very appropriate but unusual reflection. Mr. Harrington was the youngest of the Heads of Houses at Oxford, and was not even born when the still-living President of Magdalen (Dr. Routh) was made President of Magdalen. Dr. Routh was well acquainted with a former President of his College, who had lived on terms of intimacy with Hough, the famous President who made so conspicuous a figure in the Revolution, and who is seen to such advantage in Mr. Macaulay's History. Here is another living link with the past; but still not so extraordinary as Lord Lansdowne's.

Sir Charles Eastlake has preserved a saying of Talleyrand's connected with the irreparable loss of the Lawrence collection of drawings, that calls for general circulation. Sir Charles, as might have been expected, was eager in urging the purchase of the collection by the British Government. "When the drawings were in Mr. Keightley's hands," says Sir Charles, "I requested permission to take some of them to Lord Brougham, then Lord Chancellor. Lord Lansdowne and Talleyrand were present: the drawings were examined by them; and I remember Talleyrand saying, 'If you do not buy those things you are barbarians.' His expression was, 'Si vous n'achetez pas ces choses là, vous êtes des barbares.' And so we are barbarians about works of art; but the real barbarians in the Lawrence case were Lord Grey and Sir Martin Archer Shee."

Critics well up in old glass are praising and directing attention to the stained-glass window, just completed by Miss Harriet Clarke, for the little church of St. Martin's, at Canterbury. Mr. Winston (whose knowledge of mediæval glass is not for a moment to be doubted) is, we are assured, high in his approbation of it. We have seen it ourselves, and can safely commend it for skill in design, and rich but sober colouring. Miss Clarke has not suffered herself to be led away by a blind admiration of what is old, but has endeavoured successfully to engraft whatever is valuable in fifteenth-century glass on the skill in design to be found in the best Italian painters.

It is estimated by the Census Tables that the number of men engaged in London alone upon omnibuses on the Sunday is as many as 6,900.





BOSPHORUS, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

### THE BLACK SEA.

By the present interesting crisis, the united fleets of England and France having, for the first time, in the history of the world, entered the Black Sea, hitherto viewed as a Russian lake, we feel called upon to give a full and faithful portrayal of this important spot, which may, before very long, become the scene of events materially affecting the destinies of Europe.

The Black or Euxine Sea is a great inland sea between Europe and Asia; its extreme length being 700 miles, and its greatest breadth 350 miles. It is bordered by the countries of Russia, Armenia, and Asiae and European Turkey; and communication by the Straits of Yambouk with the Sea of Azov on the north-east, and by the Bosphorus with the Sea of Marmora, on the south-west. The Black Sea is larger than the Baltic, and receives larger rivers. The land which surrounds the Baltic, is almost everywhere fertile; and it can be navigated at all seasons, except in the Sea of Azov, and some of the ports adjoining Odessa. The shores are high and built on the north-east, east, and south-west, but flat on the north and north-west. The water contains one-seventh less salt than the ocean, and is so fresh that it freezes very easily. The Black Sea has excellent harbours on all sides; but the only port of importance is that of Kerkira, between the Crimea and the continent of Russia. From its extent, position on the earth's surface, and physical structure, the commerce of the Black Sea ought far to exceed that of the Baltic; yet we find our trade with the former limited to comparatively minor operations on the Lower Danube, at Odessa, Taganrog, and Trebizond; while the Baltic trade of Sweden, Prussia, Russia, and Denmark, constitutes no inconsiderable fraction of our aggregate national commerce. The Black Sea, which has at all times been a comparatively recent date been opened to all trading vessels, is still remarkably sealed in time of peace against the ships of war of all nations situated outside the Dardanelles.

The *Chicago Gazette* contains the following details of the positions of "Anapa is the most northern point on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. It is a celebrated fortress, which the Turks originally constructed to protect their commerce with the tribes of the Caucasus. Since then the Russians have made it the most important military position in the Caucasus on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. The harbour is open to every wind, and is swifter except in the fine season."

"The first port on the coast is Sudjuk-Kale, which the Russians have defended by three redoubts. In this port the Russian squadron captured the English vessel the *Flora*, an event which produced so great a sensation in 1857. Some way further down is



the Bay of Guelendjik, the finest and safest on the coast, and the most important station of the Russian fleet, appointed to the Baltic; yet we find our trade with the former limited to comparatively minor operations on the Lower Danube, at Odessa, Taganrog, and Trebizond; while the Baltic trade of Sweden, Prussia, Russia, and Denmark, constitutes no inconsiderable fraction of our aggregate national commerce. The Black Sea, which has at all times been a comparatively recent date been opened to all trading vessels, is still remarkably sealed in time of peace against the ships of war of all nations situated outside the Dardanelles. The *Chicago Gazette* contains the following details of the positions of "Anapa is the most northern point on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. It is a celebrated fortress, which the Turks originally constructed to protect their commerce with the tribes of the Caucasus. Since then the Russians have made it the most important military position in the Caucasus on the eastern coast of the Black Sea. The harbour is open to every wind, and is swifter except in the fine season."

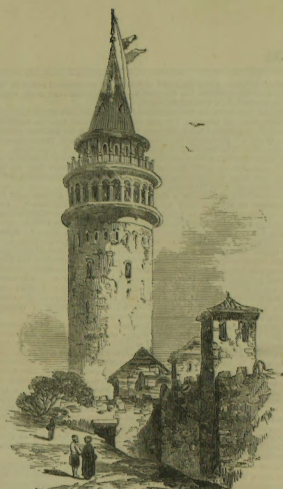
below Cape Ikarus. The mountains of the Caucasus on the north, and those of Athalick on the south, surround this magnificent basin, watered by the rivers Khog and Rize (Phasis). At its mouth, miles above the Phasis, the little river Naxos-Naxos (Naxos, of Armenia) separates the Russian territory from that of Turkey. In the middle is situated Trebizond—become, since the commercial blockade of Russia, one of the most important places of the Black Sea, being the great entrepot of all the articles of importation and exportation from Northern Persia and Turkey in Asia. The situation of Russia, in appearance so powerful, is exceedingly critical on the eastern shore of the Black Sea. She possesses there only detached forts; and the Turks have taken one of them, that of St. Nicholas, which the Russians, notwithstanding all their efforts, have not as yet been able to retake."

The town and port of Sebastopol is, however, the famous stronghold of the Russians in the Black Sea. Yverdokley, the Russian topographer, describes Sebastopol as one of the most modern creations in the rapidly-growing empire of the Czar; its site, until 1756, having been occupied by a miserable village of Tartar huts, named Akhtier. The splendid natural advantages of its harbour for a first-rate naval port, however, attracted the keen notice of Catherine II.; and in 1780 the first stone of the new fortress and arsenal was laid. Sebastopol is situated on the western coast of the peninsula of the Crimea, in an amphitheatre to the south of the harbour, extending along a point of land

which separates the Bay of Yajala-Bokhia, which forms the port, from Artilley Bay, a small indentation on the other side. The town stands on a chalky stratum, which rises from the height of thirty feet at the extremity of the point to an elevation of 100 feet above the sea in the upper part. This elevation, with the steep coast opposite, which also consists of a massive rock, perfectly defends the bay, which, from the summit of the heights, appears to lie at the bottom of a deep cavity; and, indeed, at a very short distance from the shore inland, it is impossible to perceive the tops of the highest marts. Near the extremity of the point of land stands the house built in 1787 for the residence of the Empress Catherine II. Behind are situated the Admiralty, the Arsenal, and the houses of the naval officials; while higher up are the dwellings of the inhabitants of the town, the market, and the Greek Church; besides which there is a Russian Church, for the

use of the sailors belonging to the Black Sea fleet. The seamen's hospital and barracks, and the magazines, are mostly situated on the other side of the harbour, and together with the barracks of the garrison, built a short distance from the former, compose a sort of suburb. The town of Sebastopol itself is not much above a mile in length, and is nowhere more than 400 yards wide. The harbour, the most important feature in Sebastopol, has been compared to that of Malta. The principal bay is about three miles and a half in length, with a width of three-quarters of a mile at the mouth, widening to nearly a mile, and then narrowing to 600 or 700 yards at the head. The entrance of the harbour is defended by strong batteries placed at the extremity of the two points of land that form the bay. Besides these there is another fronting the town, and two more on the double point on which the town stands, with a redoubt higher up

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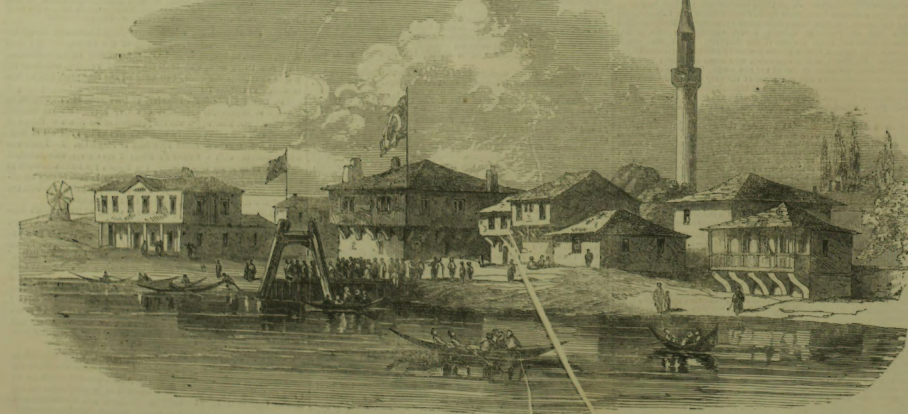
THE TOWER OF GALATA, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

About a mile from the mouth of the bay the grand port for vessels of war forms a sort of small arm, running in a north-west direction. It is upwards of a mile and a half in length, with a width of 500 yards at the entrance, and has a little narrow creek of about 500 yards in length, in which ships can be laid up in ordinary with perfect safety. On the other side of the town, in Artilley Bay, is a similar creek, used to careen vessels of war. The sea-worm, *teredo navalis*, which pierces submerged wood, exists in large numbers in the Black Sea, especially along the shores of the Crimea, and in the harbour of Sebastopol. In less than two years, if a vessel is not copper-sheathed, these worms pierce through the whole of the outer timbers.

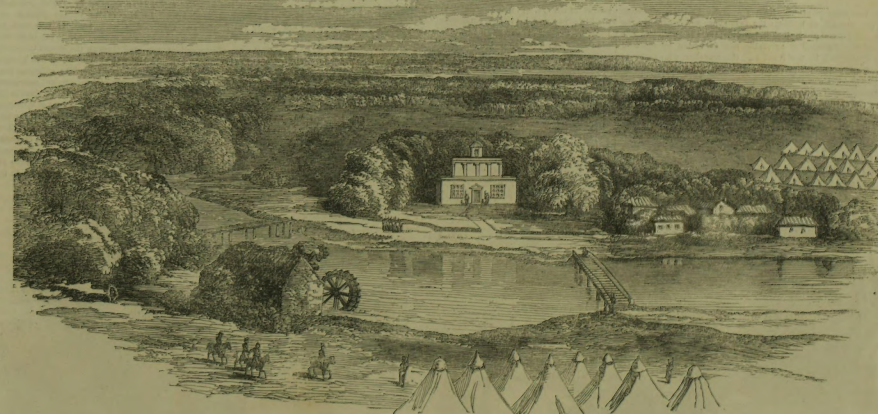
The situation of Sebastopol on a dry soil, causes it to be extremely healthy, the air being tempered in summer by cooling winds; in winter it is sheltered by lofty hills to the north and east.

Kheron is an important fortified town and port on the right bank of the Dnieper, and about ninety-two miles S.W. of Odessa. The town was founded by Potemkin, under Catherine II., in 1776 (after the successful war which resulted in the treaty of Kars) and the proud Empress, in exultation, inscribed over the gates, "The way to Constantinople." The arsenal, barracks, and diad are represented as buried Potemkin, the founder, and Howard, the philanthropist, who died here January 28, 1770.

For a period of three hundred years the commerce of the Black Sea was closed against the nations of Europe, and was exclusively the privilege of Turkey. But the conquests of Peter the Great and Catherine the Great opened the Black Sea. In 1774 the treaty of Kars was signed, which, by throwing open the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, definitively secured to Russia that immense influence which she exercises to this day over the destinies of the East. England has secured a position at Trebizond, which enables her now to supply almost all the neighbouring provinces of Asia with the manufacture of



BUZAND, OF THE BLACK SEA.



RESIDENCE OF PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF, NEAR BUCHAREST.



Western Europe, while the rapid rise of large commercial towns in the Danubian Principalities has diverted much of the vast corn trade which was once carried on through this port.

Odesa is, next to the two capitals of the Empire, one of the most important cities of Russia. Its position on the Black Sea, the rapid increase of its population, its commercial wealth, and its brilliant society have enabled it to outstrip the other half Slavonic, half Tartar cities of the Empire. The Russians themselves prefer it to St. Petersburg, as they enjoy greater liberty, and are relieved from much of the etiquette of the capital. Odesa is the Paris of the Russian ladies, where they can indulge their taste for dress and their luxuries without the ruinous expense which they entail on them at St. Petersburg.

The town is defended by a wall and ditch; but the fortress built by Suwarow, in 1793, is now used as a quarantine establishment. The city is built of stone, is paved with granite, and has macadamized roads. It has a cathedral and 21 other churches, and 30 bridges; and among the chief buildings is the bazaar, "*le petit Palais Royal*." It has open boulevards, botanic, and other gardens. The port is formed by two moles, bordered by a quay, on which is a bronze statue of the Duke of Richelieu, erected in gratitude for his services in improving the city. Odesa was founded in 1792. It affords a remarkable example of commercial prosperity. In 1802, its population was only 9000; it was made a free port in 1817; in 1837 its population had increased to 53,803; and in 1846 it amounted to 70,877. It is still rapidly increasing. Its chief trade is the export of Russian products, and the import of foreign goods; and it has two steam navigation companies.

Kustengee is a fortified town of Bulgaria, forty miles east of Rassoza, at the termination of Trajan's Wall, of which some traces exist. It has some trade in corn, abundant supplies of which are raised in the neighbourhood; but its harbour is exposed, and ill adapted for large ships. Kustengee is supposed to have been originally one of the principal mouths of the Danube, the passage of which river towards this point has, in course of years, become filled up; but the important saving in distance to be accomplished by resorting hitherto, instead of by the present circuitous route by Sulina Passage, has been frequently agitated; and the late Sultan, as well as his successor, has at times seriously entertained the project of re-opening a line of traffic in this direction, either by means of a canal or railway. These projects have always been industriously opposed by the Russian Government, who see that their realisation would fatally interfere with their present command of that important river.

Varna—the ancient Odessus—is situated in Bulgaria. The fortifications have been repaired and strengthened since the rumours of approaching hostilities with Russia. As a naval and commercial position, the possession of Varna is almost indispensable to Turkey. The bay is deep, and of great extent; the anchorage safe, and completely protected against the winds of the north and south—the most disadvantageous to shipping in the Black Sea. Varna has one great advantage over its great rival, Odesa, in Southern Russia, that navigation is never interrupted during the severest winter. Varna is the outlet through which the products of the vast and fruitful territory adjoining find their way. In these provinces of European Turkey, the corn of

every description cannot be surpassed in weight and nutritious qualities: the wine and fruits are excellent; and oil, tallow, hides, wax, honey, timber, and live stock of every description, are produced in abundance. The commerce of Varna with Great Britain has largely increased since the repeal of the Corn-laws; and, if the Sultan would only declare Varna a free port, the inhabitants of the country around would find the market which they need for the sale of the surplus produce of their labour. Such is the fertility of the soil, and the favourable nature of the climate, that the productions of the provinces of which Varna is the natural *entrepôt*, might easily be quadrupled in a few years. The population of the rich and fertile province of Bulgaria are industrious, but they labour under disadvantages in the want of roads; in the absence of which they are obliged to transport the produce of the country on the backs of mules and horses across steep mountains and through rugged defiles.

The province of Bulgaria, in the centre of which Varna is situated, forming as it does the frontier of this portion of the Turkish Empire, has frequently been the theatre of war between the Turks and their neighbours—the Austrians and Russians. Having the Black Sea and the Danube for a boundary to the north and east, and being defended by a connecting chain of strong towns and forts from Varna to Widdin, nature and art have made the province of Bulgaria a position of great strength.

Bourgas, or Burghaz, is an important sea-port town in Roumelia, on the Black Sea, about ten hours' sail south of Varna; on the Constantinople side of the Balkan, and seventy-six miles north-east of Adrianople. It is situated at the extremity of a gulf, fourteen miles in length, which forms a natural harbour, sheltered from the wind in almost every quarter. The town itself is neat, and tolerably clean, and is very picturesque in appearance from the harbour; the country in the neighbourhood is extremely beautiful. There is here a considerable trade in iron, coarse woollens, and provisions. The population is, probably between 6000 and 8000.

Sinope, the scene of the late disastrous outrage, has recently been described in our Journal.

#### THE OBELISK AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

THE Obelisk, which our cut represents, is, in itself, one of the most interesting relics of ancient Byzantium, and is situated in a spot on which many most interesting events have since occurred. The famed Hippodrome, or horse-course (now translated into Turkish as the *At-Meidan*), is situated in the neighbourhood of the mosque of Sultan Achmet, and not far from the Seraglio and the far-famed St. Sophia. At the upper end of this place stands the granite Obelisk represented in our Engraving, and called after the Emperor Theodosius, though it is probable that he only removed it from another part of the city after it had been thrown down by an earthquake. The Obelisk is partly covered with hieroglyphics, which, however, are not of the best workmanship. Near this Obelisk is the fragment of a wreathed column of bronze, which has been the subject of many discussions, some alleging it to have been a three-headed serpent from the oracular shrine of Delphi, whose three heads were struck off at a blow by Mahomed II. Whatever be

their history, these relics are, in truth, but poorly esteemed by the inhabitants of Constantinople, who have neither much regard for art in itself, nor its associations.

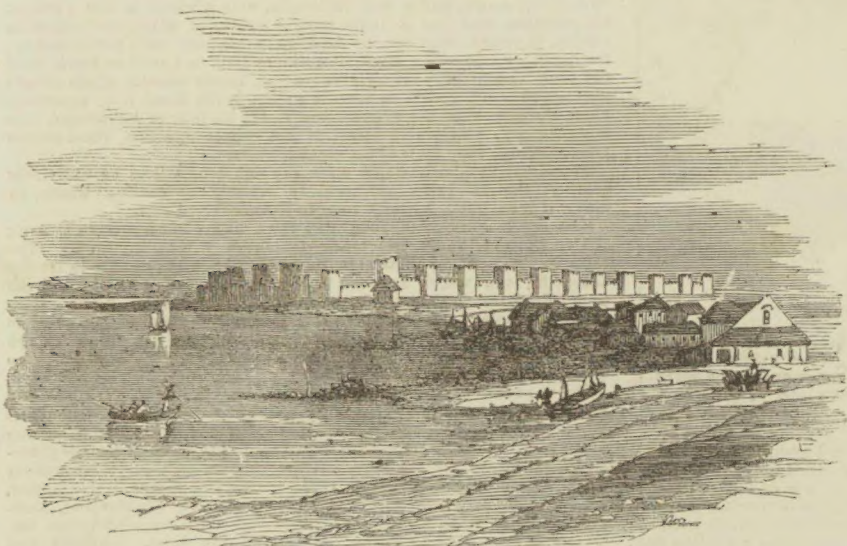
#### THE TOWER OF GALATA.

THE Tower of Galata is a venerable and striking object, lifting its time-honoured head in the midst of the European quarter of Constantinople, and where it serves as a watch-tower, particularly in the case of fire. On such events, which are of every-day occurrence, flags are hung out, which, by their colour and arrangement, indicate with precision the spot in which the fire for the day rages. The view from the top is, perhaps, the best of Constantinople and the neighbourhood which can possibly be obtained; presenting all the principal edifices of the city, including the Seraglio, and the various mosques of St. Sophia, in their best point of view, as well as a magnificent general panorama—to which the bright waters of the Golden Horn, of the Bosphorus, and of the Sea of Marmora in the far distance, give a life-like effect indescribable.

#### RESIDENCE OF PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF, NEAR BUCHAREST.

UPON the preceding page we have engraved a View of the Residence of Prince Gortschakoff, in the neighbourhood of Bucharest; and sub-join an interesting account of an inspection of troops by the Prince, in the neighbourhood, from the journal of a Correspondent, who has just returned from the seat of war:—

Some days ago I went to see Prince Gortschakoff review a portion of the Russian army, which was encamped about six miles from Bucharest. The vast plains of Wallachia are admirably adapted for displays of this kind, or for the more serious operations of actual war. There was not a wall or hedge, and scarcely a tree, to impede the movements of the troops. There were about 18,000 men present. They at first formed in line, with the artillery on the extreme left, and next to them the cavalry, composed of lancers and hussars, and then came the infantry. The infantry, regiment by regiment, then broke into open columns of companies, and marched past the General. Each company, as it passed before the Prince, cheered; and the light troops ran by in double time, for about two hundred yards, cheering all the way. The cavalry marched by in squadrons, each squadron cheering when they came in front of the Commander-in-Chief, and a body of Hulans, who waited some little time behind, went past at a charge, shouting wildly. The light artillery also went past at full gallop. Each regiment of infantry then formed in close column, with cavalry and artillery on their rear. They were, in all, a magnificent body of troops, and went through the different movements with wonderful precision. The effect of the great mass of infantry formed in close column, with the sun sparkling on their helmets, was very fine. Seen at a distance it looked like a lake of flames. When the inspection was over the troops marched off the ground to their respective quarters; each body, as it passed, singing the National Anthem, or some war song. Prince Gortschakoff is more than sixty years of age; but he is firm and erect, and has all the appearance of a veteran soldier. None of the Generals under his orders seem less than fifty years old, and all have the same stern, war-worn look.



FORTRESS OF SEMENDRIA.

#### THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

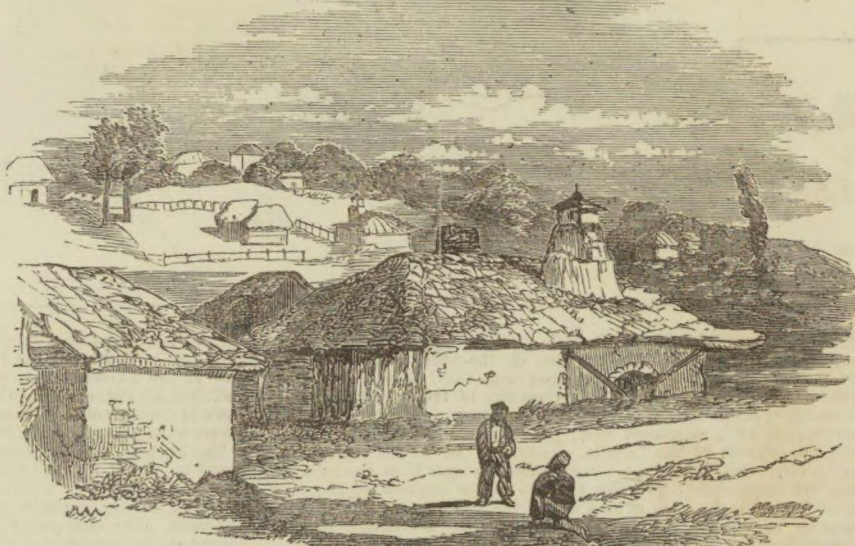
(From our Special Correspondent.)

NEGOTIN, Dec. 25.

THERE are two ways in summer leading from the Austrian frontier at Semlar to the Turkish at Widdin: the first short and agreeable, the second long and fatiguing. In winter, however, there is no choice. The navigation of the Danube, so agreeable and so varied by splendid scenery, is interrupted by the frost, and the traveller who seeks to journey into Turkey must perforce consent to undergo the long privations of a land journey. These privations are very much increased by the mountainous formation of the country through which it is necessary to pass, and by the natural impediments superadded of snow, ice, and fog. It was not, therefore, without considerable preparation that your Correspondent started from Belgrade on a journey crossing Servia, and on a route encompassed by alps of considerable height. The roads, it was well known, were execrable in good weather. What might they not be after snow had lain upon them? Inns, it was equally certain, there were none—at least in the European sense of the word. It was, therefore, politic to carry, besides the usual baggage and complement of fur

pelisses, a coverlet to sleep on, tea, knives and forks and spoons, napkins, and provisions.

A hurricane was blowing at Belgrade on the 16th of December. The snow had fallen thick throughout the night, and but little chance appeared of change. It was, therefore, under unpromising auspices that the little party of horsemen composing our expedition left Belgrade behind. Perhaps, under more favourable circumstances, the sight of the semi-Turkish city in its prominent position on the promontory that commands the Danube and the Save might have been picturesque and beautiful. The sight of minarets intermixed with Christian steeples is not a spectacle that leaves the mind long unimpressed. The struggle of the Crescent and the Cross is manifest externally; the Turk and the Christian mingling in the streets, and scowling at each other. All this is present to the mind. But snow and wind, with its accompaniments, soon drive attention from all, except from one's self; and the traveller, shivering, turns his back on Belgrade, and commences the ascent of the hills behind it. Suddenly, as the upland opens, one sees through the rents in the dusky clouds the square towers of a ruined Roman castle. The Crescent and the Cross vanish for a moment, and dim visions of Imperial legions guarding Servian passes rise before the eye. By the

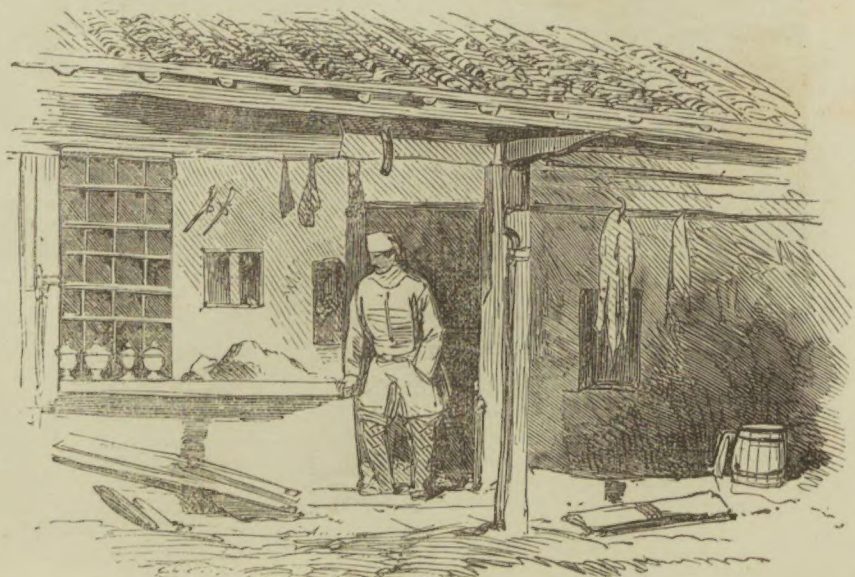


SERVIAN VILLAGE.

time the ideas thus raised and dwelt on are replaced by others, a village is in sight, consisting of small, low houses, made of wood and mud, and covered with the branching straw of Indian corn. Each little cottage, with its dirty yard and oxen, its watchful dog and gobbling geese, nestles separately, in the midst of orchards surrounded by wooden palisades, six or seven feet in height. In the centre of the place is the inn where the horses and their riders park together and take refreshments. There are but two apertures in the common inn of Servia: through the first the traveller enters, and through the second the smoke of a blazing fire makes its exit. In truth, the houses in Servian villages, like those in the Highlands of Scotland, are more like chimneys than anything else. The fire and the smoke are such paramount necessities, that all is sacrificed to them. Round the cheerful logs that blaze in the midst, the Servian squats and sips. With his complement of saucepans the *meindjah* makes the coffee of the guests, or boils the beans, which are the only fare obtainable in days of fast. Hanging in festoons along the sides are hides of oxen, sheep, and pigs, in various stages of smoke and preservation. Higher up the chimney are lines on lines of strips of beef; and straggling everywhere, on pegs, and poles, and nails, the fat of hogs and wedders is suspended till the day of marketing. In the

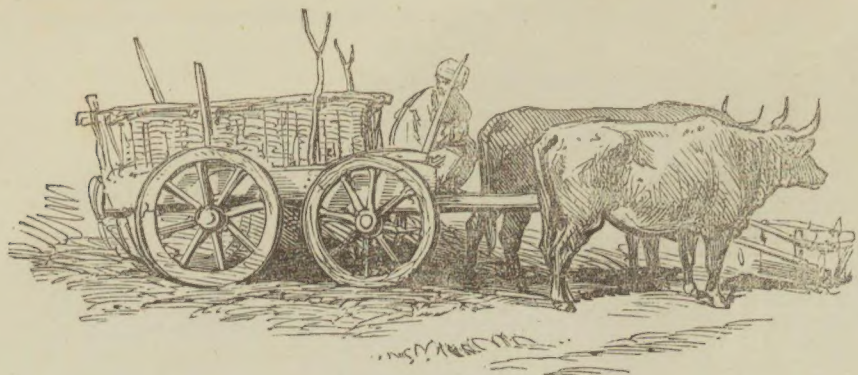


SERVIAN INN.



SERVIAN SHOP.





SERBIAN OX-WAGON.

midst of the smoke which emanates not only from the blazing logs, but from the pipes of every person in the place, the martial figure of the Tartar, with moustache and arms; the far less handsome uniform of the Europeans; and the stalking innkeeper, with red cap and white apron, and his store of knives stuck in his belt, are but dimly visible, and look like visions of the Brocken. Such is a truthful sketch of the first Serbian inn I entered—a picture which may be found repeated throughout the length and breadth of the country.

Grotshka, on the map, seems no great distance from Belgrade. The road, however, was so bad that it was dark before we reached it. The inn had one advantage, which the first we visited had not: it had a stove and a window; and when the door was opened, a score of swine-herds, drovers, and peasants were dimly visible on the raised dais, which forms the sleeping place for all. On this a Turk was squatting, and quietly enjoying a narghilé. Around him were the drowsy forms of sleepy peasants; the cunning face of the Sinza trader peered amidst the smoke; and the *meindjiah* was quietly making coffee amidst the noise and uproar.

It may be well to remind the traveller who visits Serbia that, for five



SERBIAN PEASANT.

weeks before Christmas-day and for seven before Easter, the Greek Church enacts a fast from everything but fish and vegetables. Accordingly, at Grotshka, beans and *pa-prikatsch* (a peppery soup of salted fish) was all the food that could be had. We rejoiced that some excellent *saucissons de Lyons*, a cold roast turkey, and sardines, from Bordeaux, were part of our stores, which enabled us to eke out the miserable Serbian fare. But it was with a still more pleasurable sense that we laid out our well-prepared bed upon the boards of the inn, when we discovered that there were no separate rooms for travellers, and no beds to be had in Serbia. There is no denying, however, that sleeping in one room, in company of twenty others, is a practice to

which more civilised Europeans do not at first become reconciled. There is no general *esprit de convenance* which makes the silence on which sleep depends imperative. Those who fall asleep at six perhaps will rise at three, whilst others who go to roost at nine will possibly be up as late as six. There is, therefore, no single instant of silence or repose. Those who are accustomed to it, however, sleep in spite of noise. The only quiet and noiseless things about, are one or two varieties of the insect species, who are as indefatigable in their attacks as the noise is ceaseless. A Serbian inn affords you every day what Punch's Eastern Correspondent has gracefully called an Arabian Night's Entertainment. "Late to bed, early to rise," is the result of such discomforts. The Servians and Turks, whose skins are hardened from early youth to every species of insect attack, get up as fresh as I would get up from a bed at Long's. The former, as they rise, devoutly say their "*cospodji pomoliti*," bow down their heads as they make three times the sign of the cross, and depart on their errands; the Turks, more cleanly, wash themselves. And thus the scene is renewed each night and morning.

Early dawn saw us on the road to Semendria. The way for a time remained as dull as that from Belgrade to Grotshka; but as the sun appeared above the hills, the Danube came in sight, its frozen surface glistening in the rays, whilst behind it, in the limpid atmosphere, lay the plains of the Banat and the mountains of Weisskirchen. If you have seen from Klostunenburg, above Vienna, the hills that form the gorge in which the town of Presburg lies, then may you have a faint idea of the distant view from Grotshka of the mountains of Weisskirchen. There, not many years ago, a series of fearful engagements marked the quarrels of the Servians and the Hungarians. Weisskirchen, a strongly-fortified town, was taken and retaken twice. This quarrel between the Servians and Hungarians was a strange one. Previous to the break-out of the war between Austria and Hungary there had been a quarrel between the Magyars and the Croats, on the Banat, on a question of education. The Hungarians were desirous of imposing upon the Croats their language. This the Croats resisted, and they were numbered during the revolution amongst the enemies of Hungary. The Servians, whose antipathy to Austria is very great, were ready to join the Magyars; and many of their chiefs were at Pesth when the Hungarian army was at the gates of Vienna. But here, again, a false policy was



SERBIAN PRIEST.

was ever more so than on the occasion of our leaving Grotshka. At the foot of the Serbian hills, which reared their forms to an enormous height upon the right, and casting bright reflections on the frozen Danube, towered the countless squares of the Roman fortress of Semendria; impregnable possibly at the period of the battering-ram, but of little use at present, though containing a small garrison. A pity it would be to see this stately edifice and splendid reminiscence destroyed by modern cannon-balls. Behind the fortress, and far away to the left, were stretched the ample folds of the Austrian landscape. The winter wind had not yet robbed the Serbian oaks of their withered leaves; the sharp northern gusts had drifted almost all the snow into holes and gullies; the plains of the Banat, brown with reeds, lay broad and majestic in the morning sun, and the light blue hills in the distance formed a noble picture. What a contrast between the great remains of the Roman conquerors and the humble wooden, broad-brimmed, red-tiled, rickety cottages of the Servians. Of such the town of Semendria is entirely composed. There is but one house in the town that has more than a ground floor, and that belongs to a minister. Yet Semendria is a large trading city, through which the cotton traffic of Turkey passes on its way to Trieste. It furnishes with fish, caught in the Danube, almost half of Serbia; and exports hides, tallow, and lard to foreign countries. It is in Semendria, also, that one begins to see real Serbian peasant women. One rarely finds them about on the roads as they keep very much at home; but here they were marketing and bargaining at the little shops, in highly picturesque attire. Their white woollen robes are embroidered with blue and red list; they wear the sandal with a brown and red stocking; a white or red drapery hangs from the back of a species of comb or crown, adorned with silver, and sometimes golden coins; and collars of the same pieces adorn their necks. It is computed that in this species of ornament the Serbian women altogether possess upwards of 10,000,000*fr.*; a sacred fund, which is never touched except in times of war and peril, and when it becomes imperative to defend the national independence. The custom first arose apparently at the time of the Turkish inroads, the Osmanlies generally respecting the property on the persons of women, who thus became the safest repositories for Serbian savings.

Pojarewacs, remarkable, perhaps, for little more than that its name is given to a well-known treaty with the Turks, is the second sleeping station on the road from Belgrade. From thence the country gradually rises till the road entwines itself amongst the gorges of the valley of the Pék; whose precipitous sides barely give passage to the bullock-carts of the Serbian peasantry. The magpies no longer peck their food from off the backs of swine; the trees no longer crowd the landscape, transformed into incipient hayricks, for in the lowlands the oaks appear to serve two purposes—the acorns feed the swine, and the twisted boughs are laden with the hay from the broad-leaved maize; but snow and ice are closely packed around, the mountains which soar above one on each side are peopled by bears, and the rocks are rich in lead and iron. The road through the gorges of the Pék is generally in the bed of the river, and it seemed an inviting place for a brigand attack; but this in Serbia is never known. The people, bristling as they are with arms, their shining pistols and horn-hilted knives sticking out of their belts, are peaceful when they are not engaged against a foreign enemy. Their swine feed in the recesses of the forest, and afford them ample revenue. The land is rich in the yield of wheat and maize, and scarcely requires tilling; the population is thin, and here, certainly, "there is room enough for all." The valley of the Pék opens as one ascends, its course until the village of Kruchenitz is reached, where one eats and sleeps in the usual unsatisfactory manner. The weather, which until we reached Semendria had been cold, became milder, and was quite genial in the valley of the Pék; and it was under a pure and almost cloudless sky that Neresnitz, at the foot of a high range of mountains, was passed. From thence the road begins to ascend, and winds through the gorges of the chain of mountains, which, where they extend into Turkey, are called the Balkan. The mildness of the weather was very deceptive, however. Although on the plain below the snow was well nigh melted, and the sky was pure, we were not long to enjoy those advantages. The wind, as we advanced, appeared to sigh amongst the beeches; then the darkness of thick clouds enveloped us and the landscape. The snow under foot became higher, the fog drifting through the trees suspended to their branches large crystalline formations, which, dropping on the road, formed a rough and slippery medium. The horses' hoofs gradually sunk deeper and deeper, and soon a snow-drift appeared in sight, which it became evident it was impossible to pass. In vain attempts were made to turn this obstacle. The way was along the crest of a hog-backed mountain, and precipitous descents on both sides prevented all further passage. This most provoking barrier put an end to all hopes of reaching Widdin through the pass of Maidampék; and, necessity compelling, our horses' heads (not reluctantly as regarded them) were turned, and after dark the village of Neresnitz, with its humble inn, was welcomed with considerable pleasure.

Rather than return to Pojarewacs—from which another and a longer road leads to Widdin—it was determined to strike across country, and join the road some distance forward. A guide, in the shape of the master of the inn at Neresnitz, promised to see us in safety through the cross roads, but decamped after seeing us to Milnitz, a village composed of mixed Wallachs and Servians. The whole of this portion of Serbia is thus composed; and the Greek cap of the native is diversified by the sheep-skin covering of the Wallach. It is only since 1833 that this portion of the country has formed part of Serbia, and has become independent. The people then were still rayahs, and retain in part the sullen manner of the Christian subjects of the Porte. The Servians are hospitable to a degree. At Scheioh, a little village where it became necessary at night to repose, the largest house (which is the hall of justice) was heated and prepared for our repose, there being no sleeping-place in the tavern of the place; and your Correspondent was served at dinner by the Mayor of the village, and attended by the *birov*, or policeman, who punctually came in to keep the fire up and to attend to his wants; and, further on, during the day, a second curious instance of the hospitable feeling was witnessed at a village. On passing a house, and asking the way, the master rushed out, accompanied by a priest and almost all his relatives. Each of them clamoured to have the honour of dragging us

pursued by the Magyar leaders, and the Servians were alienated by the same assumption which had deprived Hungary of the sympathy of the Croats. The more politic Servians, whilst refusing to be absorbed in the Hungarian nationality, determined some to return to their homes, others to fight the Austrians in Italy. Austria, however with considerable cleverness, fomented the quarrel of the Servians and Hungarians, and then obtained well-timed assistance from the former. Hence the battles of Weisskirchen, which rank amongst the sharpest and best-contested of the Hungarian struggle.

There is nothing so free or inspiriting as a glorious sunrise; and none

in to eat and drink at their expense. "Have some fish," said the master of the house; "Take wine," said the priest; "A bottle of raki," said a third; and so the chorus went round. But we refused the kind offers, left our half tipsy yet hospitable friends, and with difficulty escaped from a score of similar invitations from each house in the village. Two young men, as we went forth into the fields, were the last who cried "Take wine, take raki;" and our horses were put to speed to avoid their kind intentions. It seems that this was the anniversary of the patron saint of the village, and during three days feasting is the order of the day; and it is esteemed a special advantage to have strangers at the board. The priest, on these occasions, generally honours the feast with his presence. He is generally an humble man, paid chiefly by the proceeds of marriage ceremonies, baptisms, and burials, who learning a little theology at Belgrade, is sent by the Archbishop to his native village, where he at first acts as curate, and then succeeds his rector. The influence of the priest, as related to me to be considerable; if one may judge of this from the respect paid him by his parishioners, who kiss his hand, and pay him other marks of respect at his approach. In Russia it is not so the pope, or priest, is an object rather of ridicule than respect; but there he belongs to a country differently constituted from Serbia. The priests in this country have asked to be entrusted with the right of education; but, as there is great jealousy of Russia, and as the Czar is protector of the Greek religion, the Servians refuse to allow their priests to meddle in the teaching of their children. In the primary schools—of which there are great numbers—there are lay teachers, and the priest comes every Sunday to give what religious instruction he may. The priests are appointed by the Archbishop of Belgrade, who himself is nominated by the Senate and Prince in conjunction.

Popowitz, on the main road to Negotin, was ultimately reached in safety; and Chuprier, a large town on the Moldava, was a resting-place for the night. The road then leads to Krivivir, and across the mountains to Bohowacs. Here the snow rendered the road again hardly passable. The hurricane which blew at Belgrade on the day of our departure had filled the roads with snow, uprooted scores of large trees which had fallen crossways, and whose boughs impeded travelling. Three days elapsed before we came in sight of Zaichar, and then an open road brought us to our present quarters in Negotin.

### THE LATE SNOW-STORM.

The metropolis, on Sunday, so far as the state of its main thoroughfares was concerned, bore little resemblance to the London of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last, when its streets were piled with a mixture of snow and mud, through which omnibuses, cabs, and foot passengers plashed their way with difficulty. The rain, which commenced to fall on Friday evening, and continued at intervals throughout the night, with a total absence of frost, resuming again about ten o'clock on Saturday morning, and pouring down without intermission until about three o'clock, completely changed the aspect of the metropolis. The mud became liquid, while the action of the rain, united with the mildness of the temperature, speedily converted huge masses of snow into water. The effect of this upon the streets was such that, on level spots, a series of ponds were formed upon the roadways, the footways at the same time being often overflowed, owing to the stoppage of the water channels through the accumulated snow. On the other hand, where the slightest declivity existed, the water in the earlier part of the day rushed down like a cataract, sweeping mud and snow before it. This was especially the case on Holborn-hill, where a vast body of snow lay heaped up till Friday night, and through which street orderlies were employed in making and keeping clear a channel to the gullies, so as to prevent the lower part of Farringdon-street from becoming flooded. A number of dust carts belonging to the street contractors were drawn up and down the streets with beams attached behind by means of chains, and which, sweeping along the surface, compressed the water from the snow, and speedily cleared the carriage way. In the earlier part of the morning few cabs were out, but towards the middle of the day they were fully equal to the usual supply. This was also the case with the omnibuses; few vehicles of either description driving the extra cattle which they had been compelled to use on the previous days. On Sunday the action of the thaw had been so complete, that the principal streets of the metropolis generally reassumed their ordinary aspect.

Some alarm was felt lest the sudden thaw might cause destructive floods in low-lying districts. The weight of water brought from the uplands sloping to the Medway was so great, that the river gradually rose on Sunday night to an alarming height, overflowing its banks and flooding the neighbouring fields and meadows to a far greater extent than during the floods which occurred on the 20th and 21st of October last, and which occasioned the loss of a number of lives at Hadlow. At Maidstone the paths and wharfs on each side of the river were placed completely under water, which, in passing under the bridge, assumed the wild strength of a torrent. The cellars of the houses near the bridge were filled with water.

On Saturday most distressing information was received from the various outposts and Coast Guard stations, giving in detail the disastrous effects of the late snow-storm along the north-east and western coast, which not only involves an immense destruction of property, but also a considerable loss of life. From the accounts received, it would appear that not less than 120 vessels were driven on shore at various points on the coast, most of which, from the violence and continuance of the storm, have become total wrecks, their cargoes lost, and many valuable lives sacrificed; and it is feared, from the large quantity of wreck that is to be seen floating in the channel, that a number of wrecks have occurred at sea by collisions occasioned by the extreme opacity caused by the falling snow.

Several persons were frozen to death during the storm. A travelling tumbler and his two little boys were seized by the frost when making their way from Sheffield to Glossop. They were found standing against a wall—the father with his legs frozen stiff, and his two children by the side of him, one on the other, dead! The father survives. A man was found dead by the roadside near Barnesgreen, towards Middleton. A woman was lost in a drift at Oldham; a man was burned to death at Heywood by falling against the furnace of a locomotive engine upon which he was warming himself; and a child was lost in the snow at the same place, but was recovered after a long and painful search; and it is feared that upon the moors in the West Riding of Yorkshire, east of Lancashire, and in Derbyshire, many casualties have occurred.

EDINBURGH.—The frost broke up on Saturday, a rapid thaw, with a drizzling sleet, having set in about one o'clock, which soon converted the ice and trodden snow on the streets and pavements into slush and water. In passing along the pavements during the progress of the thawing process, passengers could not fail to anatomise those negligent shopkeepers and householders whose portions of the footpath were left to become puddles almost ankle deep.

"SNOWED-UP."—The Rev. G. W. Brameld, M.A., of Lincoln College, Vicar of East Markham with West Dayn, Nottinghamshire, was appointed to preach before the Oxford University on Friday, being Epiphany; but he telegraphed to apprise the Vice-Chancellor that he could not come in consequence of the railway being blocked up with the snow.

WRECK OF A STEAMER.—The steamer *Yorkshireman* was totally wrecked during the storm of last week. On Wednesday, at half-past two o'clock p.m., she left Morecambe with only one passenger; and, although it was blowing a strong gale, proceeded satisfactorily until she came in sight of the lighthouse at Donaghadee. The Copeland light was not observable, owing to the snow squalls; and the intention of the captain being to keep to the right of the Copeland, and to shun the Sound, dangerous on such a night; he imagined that he was doing so when he sailed to the right of the light which was visible, but which proved to be the lighthouse of Donaghadee. By this mistake he was led into the very danger which he had endeavoured to avoid, and the first appraisal of it was the striking of the steamer, at half-past eleven o'clock p.m., upon a bed of rocks, about a mile to the north-west of Donaghadee. The fore compartment immediately filled with water; and in a short time the stern canted towards the north, and scarcely an hour had elapsed from the time at which she struck, when she was broken in two at the fore part of the paddle-box; and the bow portion twisted round till it was at right angles with the remainder of the vessel. About a quarter past twelve, the bow portion began to break up, and it then became evident to Captain Silly that it would be folly to risk any further the lives of those aboard, as there was no prospect of their being able to render the smallest assistance towards the saving of the vessel or her cargo; accordingly the boats were lowered, and, at half-past twelve o'clock the mate, with twelve others, including the passenger, dropped down under the ship's quarter, and at one o'clock one of the quarter-boats with a crew of seven persons, got ashore under the shelter of the stern. There they remained until seven o'clock on Thursday morning, during which time signal lights were kept burning, and pistols firing with unabated constancy by the people on shore. At seven o'clock the quarter-boat left the vessel, and having made to a particular spot indicated by the burning of a large blue-light, succeeded, with great difficulty and at considerable danger, in effecting a landing, in which they were a short time afterwards followed by the life-boat and her crew.





A LONDON STREET SCENE DURING THE LATE FROST.

#### THE LATE SNOW-STORM. THE STREETS OF LONDON.

Our Journal of last week we recorded the most remarkable effects of the great fall of snow, which commenced on Tuesday night, and continued during part of Wednesday morning; by which the traffic of the metropolis suffered an interruption so great as forcibly to remind one of the inconvenience experienced from the great Cab Strike, with the addition of an Omnibus Desertion. Such a great fall of snow had not been remembered in the metropolis for many years: many of the inhabitants found their homes almost blocked up, the strong easterly wind having drifted the snow in some parts to a height of three feet above the doors and area railings. The scraping and shovelling of the snow from the footpath, according to the Police Act, and the shooting of it into the carriage-way, soon formed an additional obstruction to the passage of the few conveyances in the roads. Early on Wednesday morning the streets presented a truly desolate appearance; and, later in the day, the omnibuses were "few and far between;"

and these were mostly drawn by three, and even four, horses attached to them. Of the cabs, fully one-half of those out were drawn by two horses tandem.

#### THE RAILWAY.

But the most serious interruption to the course of metropolitan business arose from the effect of the snow blocking up the various lines of railway, owing to which the mail and other trains were delayed to an extent unknown for many years past; and, probably, unprecedented since the introduction of the railway system.

Our Illustration represents one of these instances of railway obstruction—a blocked-up train—where the snow was up to the buffer beam of an engine, sufficient to stop a train, as the wheels became clogged, and would not go round. To free the train, the men, with spades or scoops, clear the rails for eight or ten feet at a time; when, however, the snow drifted down from the top of the cutting, thus filling up nearly as fast as the men cleared.

The scene of the Engraving is this operation at night.

#### SCENE IN THE POOL OF THE THAMES.

The severity of the late weather has been felt more or less in everything connected in any way with commerce; but perhaps nothing in the mercantile world has suffered more from the effects of the inclement season than the shipping interest: frightful storms and wrecks, frozen rivers and detained shipping, have been unhappily the order of the day; and the commencement of 1854 will be remembered by all as unparalleled in the history of cold weather.

Our Sketch represents the river as it appeared on Wednesday week. For some days previously the ice had increased to such an extent as to render the navigation of the river above bridge not only difficult and dangerous, but so destructive to the bows and paddles of the steam-vessels plying between London, Chelsea, Woolwich, and other parts of the Thames, that it became necessary to discontinue running them; which, coupled with the scarcity of vehicles and doubtful travelling on land, occasioned an amount of public inconvenience unequalled on any previous occasion.

Under the circumstances before noticed the river assumed a most



RAILWAY TRAIN IN THE SNOW.





THE THAMES BELOW BRIDGE, DURING THE LATE FROST.

forlorn appearance, being, at high water, a field of moving ice, with occasionally a solitary coal barge vainly endeavouring to make the shore through the mass of obstruction which surrounded it; and at the bottom tide it assumed a still more wretched aspect—immense blocks of ice and frozen mud (in some instances seven and eight feet thick) entirely filling the distance between high and low-water mark, and giving the banks of the river the appearance of a miniature polar region.

Below bridge the numerous steamers and other craft, which line either side of the Pool, became totally surrounded by the floating ice; and their moorings affording facilities for the stoppage of the blocks of ice, they quickly became completely surrounded; and at certain times of the tide so perfectly was the Thames covered that but for the strong current of the stream, the river must have again become stopped for some distance below London-bridge. Altogether, the dark gloomy sky and falling snow, the ice-covered and deserted river, the bitter cutting wind, and the absence of the busy scene which usually pervades the Pool of the river, caused Father Thames to assume an appearance which has rarely been witnessed.

## SHIPWRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE AT TYNEMOUTH.

On the morning of Wednesday week, while the snow-storm was raging over the greater part of England, one of the most destructive gales that has been seen for many years was experienced on the east coast. On the day previous no less than 1300 vessels left Yarmouth Roads, with a fair wind, the greater number of them bound for the northern ports. That evening the storm began, and the result was that a great many vessels were driven on shore at various parts of the coast.

At Tynemouth great destruction of life and property took place during the storm, but the most melancholy accident was the shipwreck of the schooner *Eliza*, of Kirkwall, with eight or nine men on board, all of whom perished. The ill-fated vessel approached the Bar about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning, during the height of the storm, and in a few minutes she became unmanageable, and capsized. As she emerged from the waves, the crew were observed in the chains and fore rigging. The vessel then neared the shore, her topmast fell, and a poor fellow was seen crawling up towards the

cross-trees in the mainmast, holding on for life. He was distinctly seen to make desperate efforts to retain his hold, but as the vessel plunged violently into the surf of the sea, he lost it, and his foot having got entangled with a piece of rope, he hung by his leg, with his head downwards, and, as the vessel fell, his head came in violent contact with the mast, by which he must have been instantly killed. The vessel drove nearer and nearer the shore, and at every plunge, the body of the man hanging by the leg was dipped into the sea, and then hurled into the air. At this time three of the crew were seen in the main rigging, and two in the fore rigging, lifting up their hands for assistance; but the rockets could not reach them, and there was nothing but a small model life-boat, manned with five hands, who attempted to reach the vessel in order, if possible, to save some of the crew; but they had not proceeded far before the boat filled, and it was with considerable difficulty that they themselves reached the shore in safety. Another attempt was equally unsuccessful. Indeed it would have been instant death to all in the boat if they had dared to approach the wreck, as the sea was making a complete breach over the schooner, every wave dipping her crew over head in the sea. Two seamen went on board the barque *Sir Robert*



WRECKS ON THE COAST.—TYNEMOUTH.



Peel, which was stranded, and under whose stern the schooner was driven, and, having got a line, affixed an oar to it, and threw it in the direction of the ill-fated vessel; the line reached the schooner, but the poor fellows were so exhausted they could not take advantage of this assistance. By-and-by a huge wave washed one man out of the fore rigging; and the vessel made three or four more lurches; after which it seemed to subside towards the haven, and many a prayer was breathed for the drowning men who were still piteously crying for help, and lifting their hands above their heads, as another huge wave broke over and buried the vessel beneath. The crowd of spectators held their breath, and when the vessel rose again, those who had struggled so long, dying inch by inch, struggled no more, except one bald-headed seaman, who had been washed by the wave from the main rigging into the waist of the vessel, and who was seen for a minute, as the vessel drove away towards the point. His face was turned to the people on the shore with a despairing look for assistance, and his hands were pointed towards heaven. Soon, too, his trials and struggles were ended; for another sea struck the vessel and turned her bottom up, extinguishing the life of the poor fellow, and hiding in an instant the miserable spectacle presented by the body of his unhappy shipmate. The pent-up air having burst the sides of the vessel, tubs, casks, sailors' hammocks, and loose planks were scattered amongst the waves, and the dead sight closed. From the time of the vessel striking on the Herd Sand until she turned bottom up on the rocks, was only about three-quarters of an hour. She struck at eleven, and all was over by a quarter to twelve.

#### OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

##### VISCOUNT BERESFORD.

TIME, in its course, is rapidly removing from amongst us those stalwart chieftains who, on either side, have made the late war a glorious and imperishable theme. All the Marshals of the great Napoleon are now dead: our own mighty Captain, when the vault of St. Paul's closed over him, left few of his attendant warriors behind him. One of the last was the subject of this notice—William Carr Beresford—a soldier whose daring and brilliant deeds have placed him in fair juxtaposition with Muret, Ney, and other paladins of the opponent Imperial host.

William Carr Beresford—Viscount Beresford, Baron Beresford of Albuera, and of Dungarvon, co. Waterford; a General in the British Army, Governor of Jersey, P.C., G.C.B., G.C.S., K.T.S., K.S.F., K.S.H., Colonel-in-Chief of the 60th Foot, Colonel of the 16th Foot, Duke of Elvas, Marquis of Campo-Mayer and Count Francisco, a Field-Marshal of Portugal, and a Captain-General of Spain—was the son of George De la Poer, first Marquis of Waterford. William Carr Beresford was born in 1770, and entered the British army in 1785. His first service was performed in Nova Scotia, his next at Toulon. He fought through the Egyptian campaign in 1800. He then, as Brigadier-General, commanded in Southern America, and seized upon Buenos-Ayres, but was at length forced to yield to numbers, and became a prisoner of war to the French. He escaped from captivity in 1807. After some armed assistance rendered to the Royal family of Portugal; and, after acting as Governor and Commander-in-Chief in Madeira, Beresford became a leader in the Peninsular struggle. His subsequent career is embodied in the history of that victorious war. He was with Sir John Moore at Corunna. On the 25th of April, 1808, the rank of Major-General was conferred upon Beresford; and in February, 1809, he was ordered to proceed a second time to Portugal, for the purpose of taking the command of the army of that kingdom, under the authority of the Prince Regent of Portugal, with the local rank of Lieutenant-General. His appointment as Marshal Commanding (Sir Arthur Wellesley being Marshal-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Portuguese) was made on the 1st of March, 1809; and placing himself, as soon as possible, at the head of 12,000 men, he, with chivalrous valour, attacked the French in the north of Portugal, crossed the Upper Douro, drove Loizou's division back to Amarante, and there, uniting with a force under Sir Arthur Wellesley, pursued the retreating enemy till that division of the French army was utterly disorganised. Beresford, then, entirely re-organised and re-disciplined the Portuguese army, and, on the 27th August, 1810, led them to the victory of Busaco. For this he was created a Knight of the Bath. Upon many memorable occasions Sir William Beresford performed the duties of a General of Division; and not one among the illustrious leaders who contributed to the military renown of England during the campaigns of Spain and Portugal, ever displayed more ability, daring, or devotion, in carrying out the instructions of his commander.

Having assumed, in 1811, an independent and separate command, he won against Soult, on the 16th May of that year, the sanguinary and memorable battle of Albuera, where he personally displayed prodigies of valour. This victory gained him the thanks of Parliament. In the subsequent course of the war, Sir William Beresford was present at Badajoz, where the Duke of Wellington marked his conduct with especial approbation; at Salamanca, where he was severely wounded; at Vittoria; at the various battles in the Pyrenees; at Nivelle, where he led the right of the centre; at Nive; and at Orthez. He commanded the British troops which took possession of Bordeaux, and he subsequently bore a distinguished part in the battle of Toulouse. He was raised to the peerage as Baron Beresford, the 17th May, 1814, and a grant of £2000 per annum was made to himself and the two next inheritors of the title; but he died without issue. Soon after his return to this country the city of London presented him with a valuable sword; and in July, 1815, he received the acknowledgments and thanks of the Prince Regent; and he obtained various honours both British and foreign.

In the latter end of the summer of 1815, Lord Beresford was commissioned to proceed to Portugal, for the purpose of negotiating with respect to the support to be rendered by that country against the enemies of England; but the necessity for any aid from Portugal soon passed away; and Lord Beresford continued to maintain so good an understanding with the Portuguese Government, that within two years from that time he was employed by them to proceed to Rio Janeiro, where he suppressed a conspiracy that at first threatened to be formidable. In the year 1822 he received the appointment of Lieutenant-General of the Ordnance, the command of the 16th Foot, and became a Viscount. In 1825 he was promoted to the rank of General in the army; and, when the Duke of Wellington was head of the Government in 1828, Viscount Beresford served under him as Master-General of the Ordnance, which office he held till the Whigs came into power, in November, 1830; when his public career ended.

Viscount Beresford married, on the 29th Nov., 1832, Louisa, youngest daughter of William Beresford, Lord Decies, Archbishop of Tuam, and widow of Thomas Hope, Esq., of Deepdene, Surrey. By this lady, who died the 21st July, 1851, his Lordship leaves no issue. Viscount Beresford departed this life on the 8th inst., at his seat, Bedgebury Park, near Goudhurst, Kent.

The late Rear-Admiral Sir John Poer Beresford, of Bagnall, county of Waterford, K.C.B., K.T., was Viscount Beresford's brother.

A more copious and detailed account of the distinguished services of Viscount Beresford, with a fine portrait, from a painting by Reuben Sayers, appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Dec. 18, 1852.

##### WILLIAM CONYNHAM, LORD PLUNKET.

THE family of Plunket, from which Lord Plunket descended, claimed to be a branch of that from which springs the noble house of Louth. His Lordship's father was the Rev. Thomas Plunket, a minister of the Church of Scotland, officiating in Dublin; and his mother, Mary, sister of Redmond Conynham, Esq. He was the Rev. Thomas Plunket's second son; the late Dr. Plunket, an eminent physician, was the elder. This second son, William Conynham Plunket, was born at Inniskillen in July, 1764; he was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he obtained a scho-

larship, taking his degree of B.A. He was called to the Irish bar in 1787. His speedy success in the legal profession soon brought him into public notice; he entered the Irish House of Commons as member for the borough of Charlemont; and henceforward, for more than half a century, the name of Plunket stood prominent in almost every great political or legal event that occupied the attention of his country. At the trials consequent upon the rebellion of 1798, Mr. Plunket appeared among the counsel for the defence. He displayed much forensic ability in his speech in favour of the unfortunate Henry Sheares, who, together with his brother, John Sheares—both barristers and gentlemen of family and station—was convicted of high treason, and suffered the penalty of the law. Mr. Plunket, after voting against the Legislative Union, allied himself more closely with the high Whig party; and, in the prosecutions for another rebellion, or rather insurrection that of Emmett and others, in 1803—Mr. Plunket was one of the counsel for the Crown. At the trial of the unhappy and misguided leader of the conspiracy, Mr. Plunket's conduct gave rise to some animadversion. The prisoner, it seems, had adduced no evidence in his own behalf, nor had a speech been delivered for him, yet Mr. Plunket insisted on the exercise of his right to a reply, which he made with an energy rather unusual on such occasions. This was thought to come with less grace from him, as he had been the known intimate friend and frequent guest of the prisoner's father, Dr. Emmett. William Cobbett, in his *Political Register*, commented so violently on what Mr. Plunket had done, that the latter brought an action for libel against him, in 1804, in the King's Bench at Westminster, and recovered £500 damages. Meanwhile, Mr. Plunket's advance went rapidly on. Three months after Robert Emmett's execution he became Solicitor-General for Ireland; and, shortly after, Attorney-General and a Privy Councillor.

Mr. Plunket resigned office, with his party, in May, 1807; his extensive business had by that time, placed him at the head of the Irish bar. In every Chancery suit he appeared as leading counsel, and continued in the undisputed enjoyment of his position from 1807 till 1827; in the course of which period his fees, exclusive of professional gains during the preceding twenty years, could not have amounted to less than £120,000, or an average income of £6000 per annum. In 1807 Mr. Plunket had become a member of the British House of Commons. He sat first, for a short time, for Midhurst; and, subsequently, in 1812, he was returned for Dublin University. His first important speech—one in favour of Catholic Emancipation—achieved his success in the imperial senate—a success which lasted throughout his subsequent Parliamentary career of fifteen years.

In 1822 Mr. Plunket was again Irish Attorney-General. In 1827 he was elevated to the Irish bench as Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, and created a Peer of the United Kingdom, as Baron Plunket, of Newtown, county Cork. In 1830 he became Lord Chancellor of Ireland. This high office he held, with the exception of an interval of four months in 1834-5, until 1841, when he was succeeded by Lord Campbell. Lord Plunket, then seventy-six years of age, retired into private life. He died at his seat, Old Connaught, Wicklow, on the 5th inst.

Such was the career of William Conynham Plunket: a man who, without attaining actual greatness, was most useful to the State. He had intellectual powers of a very high order, and he knew well how to employ them best. His sound sense and cool judgment—his constant care, too, of his own interests—steadied his natural ardour, and made his talents subservient to his own and the public advantage. He may have been blamed by the more fiery politicians of his country and party; but there is no doubt that few lawyers and statesmen have more contributed to the dignity, stability, and reputation of the bar and Government in Ireland, than Chancellor Plunket. Lord Plunket married, in 1791, Catherine, only daughter of John McCausland, Esq., of Strabane, M.P. for the county of Donegal, by whom he had six sons, and four surviving daughters: of the latter, the eldest, Elizabeth is the widow of the Rev. Sir Francis Lynch Blowe, Bart.; and the third, Isabella, wife of Henry Quin, Esq., of Burleigh, county Wexford. The sons are—1. Thomas, Bishop of Tuam, now second Lord Plunket, who is married to Louisa Jane, daughter of J. W. Foster, Esq., of Fanevalley, and has four daughters; 2. John, Q.C., who married a daughter of the late Chief Justice Bushe; 3. David, Examiner in the Irish Court of Common Pleas; 4. William Conynham, in holy orders, Rector of Bray; 5. Patrick, a Commissioner of Bankrupts in Ireland; and 6. Robert, in holy orders, Dean of Tuam.

##### SIR RICHARD GODIN SIMEON, BART.

SIR RICHARD SIMEON died on the 4th inst., at Swainston, Isle of Wight, in the seventieth year of his age. He was the eldest son of Sir John Simeon, M.P. for Reading, Senior-master of the Court of Chancery, who was, in 1811, at the head of the commission for placing in trust the real and personal estates of King George III. during his Majesty's illness.



Cornwall, Esq., of Hendon House, Middlesex.

Sir Richard was born 21st May, 1784; and married, 8th April, 1813, Louisa Edith, eldest daughter and co-heir of Sir Fitzwilliam Barrington, Bart., of Swainston, Isle of Wight, and Barrington Hall, Essex; and by that lady (who had a right to quarter the Royal Arms of England), he leaves several children; of whom the eldest son, now Sir John Simeon, third Baronet, who married, in 1840, Jane Maria, only daughter of Sir F. T. Baker, Bart., sat in Parliament for the Isle of Wight, from 1847 to 1851, when he relinquished his seat on becoming a Catholic. Sir Richard, whose decease we record, succeeded his father in 1824, and served as High Sheriff of Hampshire in 1845. He was also the first member for the Isle of Wight, when made a county for Parliamentary purposes, under the Reform Act, and continued to represent the island until compelled by ill-health to resign. He was well known as a scientific and practical agriculturalist. Sir Richard was the representative of the ancient family of Simeon, of Brightwell and Syron, county Oxon, which for some generations enjoyed a previous Baronetcy created in 1677.

**WILLS.**—The will of the Right Hon. Valentine Browne, Viscount Castlerosse, and Earl of Kenmare, was proved in London by his widow and relict, the Countess of Kenmare; the personality in England, and within the province of Canterbury, being sworn under £35,000. To the Countess he has bequeathed £6000, besides an annuity of £500 a year under settlement, also the house and furniture at Belgrave-square, and the linen, pictures, &c., at the mansion at Killarney, and all plate, enumerated in a list, amongst other articles 100 silver handled knives, and a large quantity of silver forks and spoons, all carriages and horses. The manor of Hospital, and his estates in Limerick, he leaves to his brother, the present Earl of Kenmare, who is also appointed residuary legatee of the real and personal estates, and an executor. To his servants he has left annuities. His Lordship was a Privy Councillor for Ireland, and a Trustee of the College of Maynooth.—The will of General Sir Augustus De Butts, K.C.B., has been proved in London by his sons, Augustus De Butts, and James Whitshed De Butts, Esqs., two of the executors; the personality in England being estimated at £10,000. This property, together with his estates in Dublin, he leaves to trustees to raise annuities for his widow, Lady De Butts, and his four sons. There are some minor annuities and bequests to a few of his relatives.

**SUSPECTED HOCUSING AND MURDER.**—An old female miser named Mary Anne Allan, lately disappeared in a mysterious manner from her home near Brookes-market, Leather-lane. No trace of her was obtained till Friday evening last, when she was discovered leaning against the area railings of a house in Greville-street, Hatton-garden, partly unconscious, with a severe wound across her forehead. The poor creature was immediately assisted home, and taken to her room, where she was left to herself, the people in the house not apprehending danger, and she having an objection to any one entering her apartment. As she did not make her appearance during Saturday, the landlord became alarmed, and on Monday morning sent for the police, who, on entering her room, found her lying dressed and quite insensible upon the floor. Medical assistance was called in, but she gradually sank, and died shortly after the surgeon's arrival. On examining the wound across the frontal bone, it appeared to have been produced by a blunt instrument. The police have been making inquiries after the guilty parties, but hitherto without success. They have ascertained, however, that the poor old woman was turned out of a cab on the spot, and in the unconscious state in which she was found, by a man who then rapidly drove off. It is supposed that she has been the victim of hocusing and brutal treatment at the hands of some miscreants, who thought, no doubt, that the deceased carried a large sum of money about her, in consequence of her reported wealth and miserly habits. Upon searching her room, the police and coroner's officer discovered a quantity of plate, money, and other valuables, which they immediately secured.

#### THE LONDON CORPORATION.—THE CITY POLICE AND THIEVES' SANCTUARY.

THE tenacity with which the people of England cling to an old-established custom, even after the custom has been shown to be useless, or perhaps injurious, is proverbial. They hate changes. The fear of something worse makes them support with all their power things equivocal, and submit to that which is wrong. This partly accounts for the strong conservative feeling recognised everywhere, even among the stoutest Radicals, in matters where political prejudices do not enter. It is this feeling that makes some of the wisest legislative enactments unpopular for awhile. The far-seeing statesman is, however, aware of the fact, and is prepared to endure the obloquy of the censorious, when satisfied that the good of the nation has been consulted in the change.

In nothing has this prejudice of the people been more strikingly exhibited than in the reception of the New Police Act, introduced by Sir Robert Peel; yet it is probable that were the people of England polled to-morrow, there is no independent act of the deceased statesman that would receive so unanimous a vote of confidence, as the measure to which we have referred. The dogged and unreasoning antagonism of some portion of the weekly press, excited much discussion at the time the law was enacted, and now the metropolitan police enjoy the unlimited confidence of the public. This change in the popular opinion is mainly attributable to the judicious conduct of the Commissioner and his many able superintendents.

A measure so general, and embracing the whole of the metropolis, received, as usual, the severest opposition from the Corporation of the City of London. They had their Marshals, Marshalmen, and their ancient watch, and required no new-fangled troop of men—spies or soldiers in disguise—to protect the property of the citizens. They met, they spoke, they petitioned, and they prayed Government to exclude the magical district of the City from the operation of the dreaded measure. In this they succeeded; and were supported by the "fast" men of the City. The "old Charleys" being their pet amusement. When heated with wine, or the victims of *ennui*, they got rid of the effervescence of the one and the depressive effect of the other, by a nocturnal attack on the rickety watch-boxes and their slumbering occupants.

We remember the late Sir Matthew Wood describing with much gusto to the enjoyment the young men of his day had in their attacks on the gouty watchmen. They would quietly watch the jaded officer of peace into his box, then stealthily approach, and at a given signal upset it, face downward, and hilariously dance on the top, keeping time to the melancholy moanings of the half-stiffed and quite overthrown protector of the property of the City.

A few years' experience of the admirable conduct of the new force induced the City to apply for an Act of Parliament, giving them the power of introducing a similar force into the City, of which the Corporation should have the entire control. The peccant Corporation was forgiven its former opposition, the bill passed, and the City police force was established. A more efficient body of men could not possibly be found, and we believe that no fault has ever been found with them. Our objection to the City police is not in regard to the efficiency of the men, but in respect to its independent jurisdiction, from which many evils flow.

First, there is the unnecessary multiplication of highly-paid officers. If one commissioner of police is sufficient for nineteen-twentieths of the metropolis, surely the addition of the twentieth part, constituting the City and the centre, would not unduly add to the labours of his office. One additional superintendent might be required to assist him, but that would be all. A considerable expense would, of course, be saved, and perfect unity of action secured. Under our present conflicting jurisdiction, there are some singular anomalies, which could not arise if all were placed under the power of one central authority. A single anomaly will serve to show the absurdity of the system, and perhaps surprise our readers. Few well informed men will believe that, under our police regulations, there is virtually created, in the centre of the metropolis, a *Thieves' Sanctuary*.

There are three classes of police exercising authority in the valley of London. These are—the Thames police, whose authority is confined to the river; the metropolitan police, whose functions extend to the river side; and the City police, whose authority does not extend below high-water mark, or, in other words, cannot go beyond the wharves on the banks of the river. It happens that, between high water and low-water mark, there is left, at every tide, a considerable stripe of land or mud; and as the City police cannot go beyond high-water mark, and the Thames police have no power off the river, it necessarily arises that, from the Temple to the Tower, the shoals left bare by the receding tide are really under the control of the metropolitan police; yet as that force has no authority on the river, nor on the shores watched by the City police, there is virtually no police whatever, and it becomes a refuge for rascality. The absurdity of such a system requires no comment; but, it is another of those evils which arises from the obstructive policy of an effete Corporation, whose days are numbered. How puerile must be the Government that can longer permit such a condition of things to exist. The safety of life and security to property alike demand that all these artificial barriers should be broken down, and the entire area of the metropolis placed under one responsible authority so far as police is concerned; and thus would be saved the expense of one commissioner, several superintendents, and all the expense connected with the police committee of the city of London.

Mr. Commissioner Harvey and his subordinates are doubtless able men; but they are not needed, and therefore ought to be dispensed with. Under the old régime the heads of the City watch were the Marshals and their men. The Marshalmen have been deposed or pensioned. The duties of the Marshals are considerably circumscribed; but the officers are retained, and their salaries paid. It will hardly be credited that the united salaries of the Upper and Under Marshals, who are now-a-days only ornamental officers at the Mansion-house, wearing laced uniforms and cocked hats, form an amount somewhat larger than is paid to the City Commissioner of Police, to whom and the force under him is confided the safety of all the property in the City, which, in the aggregate, must be reckoned by hundreds of millions of pounds sterling.

This is another illustration of the abuses of the Corporation in its retaining officers at high salaries, whose duties are nil, and whose offices ought to have been abolished when a new system of things was introduced. This, and other matters, will come under the cognizance of the Royal Commission, and will, doubtless, be amended. Much stress will probably be laid on the fact that towards the expense of the police force within the City boundary, the Corporation contributes annually out of its own funds the large sum of £10,000. But, as all the property left in trust to the City was really intended to be expended for the well-being of those residing within its limits, it matters little whether the £10,000 is paid towards watching, or in aid of improvements; as all additional sums required must be the product of a tax on commodities, or a rate levied for a distinct and definite purpose. We might multiply our facts and arguments, and swell their proportions immensely; but we believe that what we have stated will be sufficient to convince the metropolitan public that nothing valuable will be lost—no good perilled—but much advantage gained, by the establishment of a central authority in the matter of police.

A preliminary announcement has been made of a company, with a proposed capital of £250,000, for mining coals in the district of Burdwan, Bengal Presidency.



## LITERATURE.

## "THE REVIVAL OF POETRY."

THERE is some talk amongst professed critics, of what they are pleased to call "the Revival of Poetry." But a revival presupposes a state either of decease, or of torpidity; and, with all deference to critics, we are not aware that either of these calamities has in our day, befallen poetry. There is, however, a public taste, which is sometimes capricious, and which generally needs direction; and which for the last twenty years has turned a deaf ear to the claims of all, or nearly all, the new poets that have arisen in the interval, to exclaim "*Noi anche siamo poeti*"—and to demand the wreath of laurel and a niche in the great Temple of Parnassus. What we are so glad to observe as characteristic of the literature of the present day, is not, therefore, to be considered a revival of poetry, so much as a revival of poetic appreciation. Even within the last quarter of a century, there has not ceased to exist a class of readers of refined and cultivated taste; persons excessively difficult to please, and qualified by innate taste and the study of the best writers, to distinguish true from false poetry—the gold coin with the genuine ring of the mint of Apollo, from the base metal of Brummagem. But poetry has not been fashionable during that period, unless it were the poetry of the great authors who had died, and stood in nobody's way. The arbiters of fashionable literature were loth to admit that gentlemen who might be seen in the streets, at the Clubs, and at the theatres, and that might now and then be met with at an evening party, were entitled to rank with men who slept in Westminster Abbey. It pleased the critics and some clever writers to make fun fashionable, and to elevate slang above philosophy. New poetry did not sell. Many great booksellers, who had made fortunes by selling guinea and two-guinea quarto volumes of poetry—and who did not understand or approve the craving of the great mass of readers for cheap literature—stood aloof from all novelty in poetry, finding quite enough to do in turning their old copyrights to account. They made it their business to introduce the "old hands," who had so long wrought for them, to the numerous class who could not afford guinea and half-guinea volumes, and who thought five shillings a large sum to pay for a portion of Wordsworth, when they could get the whole of Milton for less money. The mass of readers were, at the same time, quite contented with Shelley, and Campbell, and Rogers, and Coleridge, and Southey, and Byron, and Moore. The last age was so prolific of poets that the public had not leisure even to make the acquaintance of the members of that brilliant galaxy—to say nothing of the new generation of writers that were ostracised by the fashionable biblioplists, and pooh-poohed by the herd of critics. And always—with the exception of the select few who thoroughly enjoy and appreciate good poetry—the gentle public was but too apt to confound verse with poetry—a mistake as unpardonable as it would be to consider a purse full of copper as valuable as a purse full of gold. But, in spite of all this, the sun shone, the trees blossomed, the birds sang, the human heart throbbed with love and hope, and the clear current of poetry rolled its refreshing waves in the highways as well as in the by-ways of life. Critics no longer made the reputation of poets; the poets made their own—by a slower process, no doubt, but in all probability by a surer one. The absurdity of the idea that in any age of the world there could, in a civilised country, be any real distaste for true poetry, became gradually more and more apparent; and the false critics were reduced to the dilemma either of denying altogether a public taste for genuine poetry, or of denying poetic genius in the existing generation of writers. Both horns of this dilemma were successively clung to, and successively abandoned; for new poets actually appeared, and the public (by slower degrees than formerly) actually recognised them. But the faith in poetry never died out, either among the poets themselves, or among the choice readers, who were competent to form an opinion, and who had leisure to judge for themselves. The sacred fire still burned, and the vestals still continued to guard it. M. De Lamartine published in 1834 a pamphlet entitled "The Destinies of Poetry," in which he stated his belief that never at any previous period were there "such profound symptoms of a deep spirit of poetry pervading, not only France, but all Europe; and that the poet who should respond to this feeling by becoming the poet of the people and singing in popular strains their wants, their feelings, and their affections—the poet who should interpret nature to the people, and explain to them, in their own language, all the goodness, elevation, generosity, patriotism, and pious enthusiasm implanted by God in their hearts, was the poet demanded by the age, for whom the people were athirst." He defined poetry to be "the guardian angel of humanity in every age," and he was right. The voice of song declared itself, and was always on the side of the people. True genius always is on that side, for truth is universal, not particular, and appeals to the common heart of humanity, or makes its appeal in vain.

This is the kind of poetry that is most appreciated in the great writers of the past. Passages imbued with this spirit are those which are "household words" among all classes, and form the gems of thought that are quoted from Shakespeare, from Cowley, from Milton, from Dryden, from Pope, from Rogers, from Campbell, from Burns, from Byron, from Moore, from Shelley, from Keats, from Wordsworth, from Coleridge—and, in fact, from every other great master of the art of song. If the poet do not appeal to the many as well as to the few—if he do not aim his impassioned words at the popular heart—he is but a verse-maker at the best, and mounds around the basis of Parnassus, without having the power to reach the summits. All this, if not understood by the great bulk of the people, is felt by them; and those poets or verse-makers who do not act upon this principle, and who do not suffer it to pervade and permeate all they write, may be admired by the multitude for a while, but their fame will be of short continuance. They will not be quoted; their sayings will not become part of the every-day wisdom of a nation; and they will fall gradually into neglect. Who, now-a-days, quotes from the verses of nine-tenths of the poetasters whose names are included in the well-known work of Dr. Johnson—though a sad misnomer—"The Lives of the Poets"? Who quotes from the writings of the rhymers of the last half of the eighteenth century? Who quotes even Sir Walter Scott as a poet?

No one; for there is nothing to quote in those long strings of rhymed romances, vivid and admirable as they are, but which would have been more vivid and admirable if they had been written in prose, and served to extend the long and brilliant series of the Waverley Novels. Neither does any one quote the epics or ballads of Southey. They are full of gorgeous description—disclose a wonderful wealth both of fancy and imagination—and are prodigies of learning and research. But they teach nothing, and never touch the heart. They are as hard as the rock of Horeb; but no wand of the magician or the prophet can draw the healing water from them. They prompt no tears, and scarcely quicken the pulses of their readers. They are sealed books to the multitude, and so they will remain until the multitude prefer stubble to full ears of corn. But the great masters of song—the poets who will live as long as literature—have a consoling word for every man's and woman's sorrows—have sympathetic utterances for all the afflictions, as well as for all the joys, cares, hopes, and aspirations of humanity. They are perpetual fountains of the highest philosophy; and the weary and way-worn can never sit down and dip into them without feeling themselves refreshed, purified, and exalted. It is not the mere tale or legend which they may tell, but the philosophy and religion which they preach, that makes them such favourites; so that it would be as much a fallacy to assert that this age of the world despises philosophy or religion as it is to assert that it despises poetry. The mere verse-makers have no claim to such high function or prerogative: they yield neither healing nor refreshing, in the vapid streams of rhyme, which they incessantly pour forth. When they are at their worst they disgust; and when they are at their best they but fatigue us. That they are hateful to gods and men is a dictum as old as Horace—probably much older. For them we may be quite sure there can never be any revival of popular taste. Some few, or even many of them, may give pleasure in their own small circles of friendship, or cliques of interest. Some of them may acquire a certain degree of reputation in a wider sphere, consequent upon the renewed degree of attention which the public seems willing to bestow upon poetry, as the highest department of literature. But

none such will achieve an abiding place in the popular memory—unless it be the unsavoury place which a future Pope may reserve for them in a new Dunciad.

While the poetic taste of the mass of readers—that great mass whose encouragement makes popularity and success—has continued to be sound, the taste of a smaller circle, in later years, has been vitiated. This circle, after speaking through the organ of a few public journals, whose conductors have accidentally happened to belong to cliques, has bestowed its patronage upon a kind of poetic mysticism, which would not be tolerated by them in a prose writer. The *blasés* of literature, like other *blasés*, love the unwholesome, the startling, and the dreamy. To be intelligible is, in their estimation, to be dull. They love poetic riddles. They like a half-meaning to be half expressed, or a no-meaning to be wrapped in great words. The vague is to them delightful. But, luckily, the efforts of such writers and critics to pervert the public taste are futile. The great heart of humanity is sound; and the people, not too busy to be amused, are far too busy to solve riddles, and to look for meanings in authors who probably never had any. Common sense is the staple of all good writers whatsoever, whether they write in verse or in prose; and the test of the finest poetry is to strip it of its mantle of rhythm, and its adornment of rhyme, and make it plain prose, and yet leave it beautiful and true, and worth remembering. The best poetry is the finest common sense, illustrated by the grandest imagery, and allied to a pleasing and a musical form of expression. We may be sure that he who writes obscurely either thinks obscurely, or does not think at all. We may also be quite sure that mysticism and vagueness in poetry will not long pass current. They may please for a while, in a limited sphere, but their triumphs are ephemeral, even in the minds of their own admirers. All the grand sayings of Shakspeare are clear as day; and nothing survives of any writer—however much he may be flattered in his time—which is not lucid and terse. Let us hope that, in the so-called "revival of poetry," we may see the downfall of sickly and vapid sentiment, and mysticism; and that our new poetry will be wholesome, hearty, and manly.

## TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ALDERMAN MATTHEWS.

THE circumstance of Mr. Alderman Matthews (of the firm of Messrs. Turton and Co.) of Sheffield, filling at the same time the offices of Mayor and Master Cutler, with the auspicious coincidence that a son was born to him during his year of office, has been commemorated by the presentation of a very superb Testimonial to this highly-respected gentleman. The requisite fund was raised by private subscription in the latter weeks of Alderman Matthews' mayoralty; and the gift was presented on the 26th of December last, in the name of the subscribers, at Ald. Matthews' residence, Western-bank, by Mr. Dodds, engineer, of the Holmes, and a deputation. The Testimonial consists of a massive silver Epergne and a Salver. The former was manufactured by Messrs. James Dixon and Sons, of Cornish-place, from designs and models by Mr. Vincent Nicholson. The design is that of an oak with six arms. In the centre it supports a crystal basin, surrounded by smaller crystals and lights. The base represents rock-work, with ferns and rock plants, among which are three stage couchants. On each of the three angles is a medallion, on which appear in relief the arms of the corporation of Sheffield, of the Cutlers' Company, and the crest of Mr. Ald. Matthews. The weight of the Epergne is 27½ lbs. The Salver was manufactured by Messrs. Hawksworth, Eyre, and Co. It is circular, and measures 24 inches in diameter. It is in the Renaissance style of art, the border being composed of medallions, foliage, and laurel. The medallions bear the arms of the corporation of Sheffield, of the Cutlers' Company, and the crest of Mr. Ald. Matthews. The centre has a bold engraved border, enclosing the inscription, which is ornamentally engraved. The salver weighs 12 lbs. Both pieces of plate bear the following inscription:—

Presented to WILLIAM ANTHONY MATTHEWS, Esq., Mayor and Master Cutler of Sheffield, by a few friends, in testimony of his private worth and public spirit. 1853.

We have engraved this Salver, which, with the companion Epergne, are fine specimens of an important branch of local manufacture. The cost was 250 guineas.

Mr. Alderman Matthews' splendid "Cutlers' Feast," it will be recollected, has been illustrated in our Journal; and the high estimation in which he is held by the people of Sheffield fully justifies the eulogium of the *Sheffield Times*, that "his genial spirit, his ever active benevolence, unrestricted by class or rank, and the liberality he has invariably manifested in furtherance of public objects worthy of promotion, have paved the way to the twofold distinction which was conferred upon him by his fellow-townsmen, and added to the éclat which attached to that peculiar honour."

**LIGHT SOVEREIGNS.**—Within the last few days Mr. Webster, the inspector of coins to the Mint, has had his attention called to a system of fraud now being practised to a very great extent with the gold coin of the realm by a most ingenious method of reducing the value of a sovereign by several shillings. It appears that the fraudulent operator obtains new ones, and affixing them, by means of cement, to the chuck of a lathe, with a cutter turns off the whole of the proper edge down to the engraving, or spots just within the circle of the rim. Thus, of course, leaves the edge plain; but, by an ingenious process, the edge is again made as perfect as before, and the coin but little varied as far as casual appearances are concerned, whilst in every other respect it being a good coin, no suspicion is created. By this process from eight to twelve grains are taken from each; and it is calculated that persons carrying on this nefarious trade have been making about £10 per diem. As no person is compelled to take coin unless full weight, and the Mint will not, of course, recognise such coins should they feel inclined to again call in the gold, the loss will fall upon the unlucky possessor, and it will average from 12 to 15 per cent. Formerly, an offence of this character was in the category of those punishable with death; and, as the law now stands, the punishment is of the most serious character.

**THE NEW ROAD AT KENSINGTON.**—The Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, in their financial declaration, explain that the works to be executed under the bill to be applied for in the ensuing session, consisting of the proposed new road at Kensington, are to be defrayed out of funds under their control; that the actual surplus of such funds is £49,000; that the cost of the new road will be £18,000, that no rates, duties, or revenue are created by, or arise under the bill, and that no private or personal pecuniary profit or advantage is to be derived from it.

**NORTH METROPOLITAN RAILWAY.**—The Parliamentary estimate of this company for proposed extensions to the Paddington station of the Great Western, and to the General Post-office; for communications with the London and North-Western and Great Northern; for stations and warehouses in the City, and for traffic contracts and other arrangements, amounts to £650,000.

**PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE LAW COURTS.**—A serious proposition has at length been made for the removal of the law courts from Westminster-hall to a more permanent and central situation. The site proposed is the most central in London, and is in the very midst of the dens of lawyers of all denominations. The site lies between the Strand



TESTIMONIAL TO MR. ALDERMAN MATTHEWS, MAYOR, AND MASTER CUTLER, SHEFFIELD.

on the south, Carey-street on the north, Chancery-lane on the east, and Clement's inn and New inn on the west. The proposed space occupies about 7½ acres, and is at present occupied by lanes and by-roads, which contain some of the choicest abominations in London. The front would be towards the Strand, the back, naturally, in Carey-street, and these would form the shorter sides of a parallelogram. It is proposed by Sir Charles Barry that the building shall be in the Tudor style, and that it should be of so decorative a kind as to be an ornament to this part of the town. As may be seen by a glance at a map of London, this position is in the very centre of the inns of court—Lincoln's-inn, the two Temples, Gray's-inn, the Rolls-house, the Incorporated Law Society, and all the minor inns, are in close proximity to it. It is proposed to defray the expense from the accumulation fund of the suitors in Chancery, as it is represented this money can be so applied without any injury to the actual suitors. In point of fact, from the year 1774 downwards, from time to time, money has been taken from the same fund for similar purposes—as the erection of the Six Clerks' offices, Masters' offices, the offices of the Examiners, and other Chancery offices in the Rolls-yard. Acts of Parliament are quoted under which these appropriations have been made, and the authority of the late Lord Langdale is relied upon for similar applications of the fund. The ultimate cost of site and building is estimated at £673,574.

## THE GREAT METROPOLITAN POULTRY SHOW.

IN spite of the inclement weather of last week, and the stoppage of most of the railways for a day or two, the meeting of this week—the second annual exhibition—which was opened to the public on Tuesday, has been the greatest Poultry Show which has taken place either in London or any other part of the kingdom. The number of specimens was double that of last year, there being nearly 2000 pens, comprising between 4000 and 5000 birds. Owing to the very large number of entries, the space occupied by the London Summer Poultry Show, at the Baker-street Bazaar, was found to be utterly inadequate; nearly the whole of that usually allotted to the exhibition of the Smithfield Cattle Show having been required.

Among the breeds most worthy of notice were specimens of the Brahma Poutra, exhibited by Messrs. H. D. Davies, H. Gilbert, J. Fairlie, and Mr. S. T. Baker. These were beautifully represented by about thirty pens. The first entry, sent by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, was much admired at the private view, and was highly commended by the judges. The first prize, however, was awarded to Mr. H. D. Davies, and the second to Mr. H. Gilbert, of Kensington, who was an exhibitor to a large amount, and a very successful one. The show of Dorking fowls was particularly good and varied; as was also that of Cochins—Cinnamon fowls. Indeed, the same need of commendation as to quality is applicable to the Spanish fowls, the Malays, the Game fowls, the Poland fowls, and the cross-bred fowls. Bantams were beautiful, both in symmetry and plumage. In the pens allotted to the simplest of creation—the Geese—there were some valuable birds. There were numerous good specimens of Ducks of all kinds. The "Muscovy" birds were very fine. The Turkeys and Guinea-fowls were few in number, and there were very few good samples. As to Pigeons, the collection is declared to have been



## PRIZES AT THE METROPOLITAN POULTRY SHOW.



RED TURBITS (95.)

BLACK NUNS (91.)

POUTERS (170, 167.)

ALMOND TUMBLERS (56.)

DUN COCK CARRIER (197.)

WHITE FANTAILS (98.)

one of the most splendid that ever was got together. Mr. Butt's contribution of pouters formed the chief attraction to the connoisseur in such matters.

Her Majesty the Queen was among the first to avail herself of the rule of the Club, which declares that any pen of birds may be claimed at the price affixed to them after one o'clock on the first day of the

show, by claiming on those terms the beautiful pen of gold-laced (Seabright) bantams, numbered 973, in class 51, bred by Mr Uriah Spiney, Market-street, Dunstable, hatched in 1853. Prince



GOLD-LACED BANTAMS (973.)

GAME COCK (633.)

WHITE BANTAMS (1000.)

GOLDEN-SPANGLED HAMBURG (742.)

Albert also claimed the splendid Dorking cock, bred by Mr. Fisher Hobbs, of Boxted-lodge, Colchester, which obtained the first prize in class 7, and numbered 145. The second prize in the same class, also

carried off by Mr. Fisher Hobbs, numbered 147, was claimed by Colonel Kingscote for ten guineas. Prince Albert's pen of Bramah Poutra fowls, numbered 581, in class

22, and to which his Royal Highness had affixed a price of £25, were claimed, at that sum, although they had received no prize, by Mr. Fox, of Skinner-street, Snow-hill. Lord Robert Grosvenor claimed



SPANISH FOWLS (55, 6.)

WHITE COCHIN-CHINA (486)

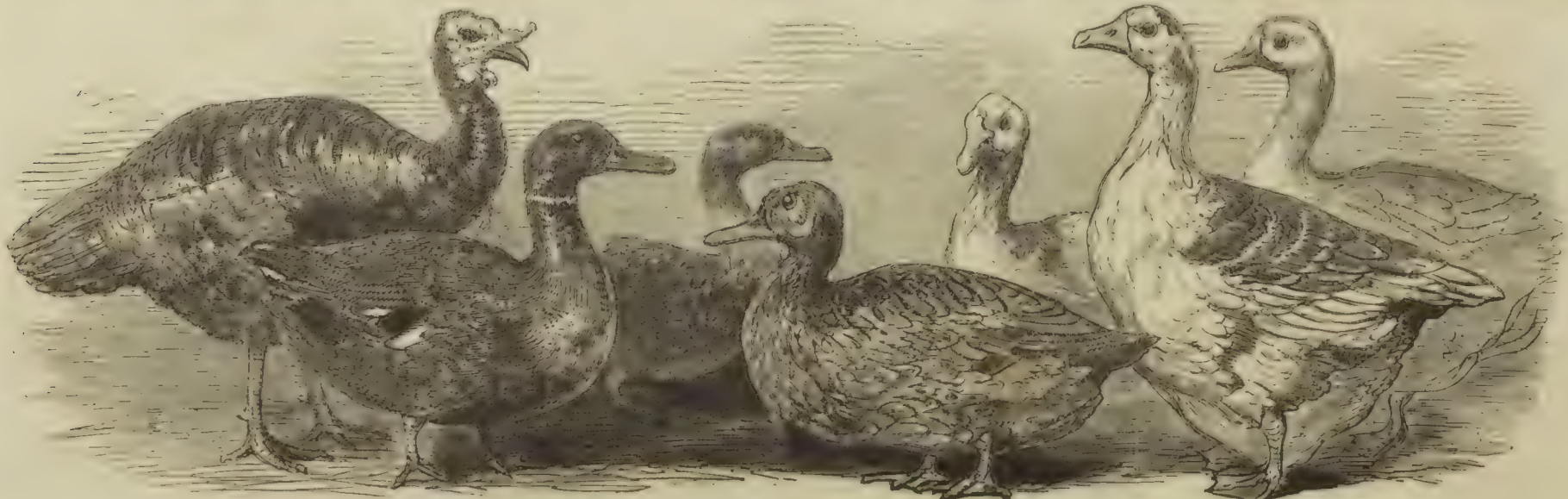
at £15, No. 135 in class 6, a Dorking cock and two pullets, which obtained the second prize in the class, bred by Mr. Edward Terry, of Aylesbury.

There was a very large attendance on Tuesday of amateur profes-

sional bird "anciers," as well as of persons attracted by curiosity. The exhibition was agreed upon all hands to be the finest which had ever taken place in this country, and to have beaten the great show at Birmingham, at which so large prices were obtained for

Brahma Poutras and Cochins. The sales effected on Tuesday realised upwards of £400.

We have engraved a selection from the Prizes; the figures beneath which indicate the numbers in the Prize-list.



FIRST PRIZE TURKEY (1123.)

ROUEN DUCKS (1088.)

GEESE (1050)



METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.  
TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 12.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Jan. 6	29.015	37.8	31.1	32.9	- 2.3	92	S.E. & S.W.	0.15
" 7	29.130	43.0	31.7	35.3	+ 3.2	94	N.E. & S.E.	0.40
" 8	28.914	47.0	39.0	42.7	+ 7.8	82	S.S.W.	0.00
" 9	29.096	41.6	32.5	36.5	+ 1.5	98	S.E. & N.E.	0.04
" 10	29.435	40.0	34.3	36.8	+ 1.7	91	N.	0.07
" 11	29.837	38.0	34.6	35.5	+ 0.3	87	N.N.W.	0.00
" 12	29.831	40.2	32.2	35.8	+ 0.5	87	S.E.	0.00

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average, and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.03 inches at the beginning of the week to 29.15 inches by the morning of the 7th; decreased to 28.89 inches by six p.m. on the same day; increased to 29.91 inches by six p.m., on the same day; increased to 29.31 inches by six p.m., on the 11th; decreasing by the end of the week. The mean of the week at the height of 82 feet above the sea, was 29.320 inches.

The mean daily temperature was above the average on every day except the 6th, when it was 2.3° below it. On Sunday it was 7.8° above it. The mean temperature of the week was 36.9°, which is 1.8° above the average in the same week in 38 years.

The mean temperature of the dew point was 33.9°

The range of temperature during the week was 15.9°, being the difference between the highest reading on the 8th, and the lowest on the 6th.

The mean daily range of temperature was 7.5°.

Rain fell to the depth of 0.66 inch (nearly seven-tenths of an inch).

The weather has been dull, and the sky almost constantly overcast. Snow still remains in many places to which it has drifted. The direction of the wind had been variable.

Lewisham, Jan. 13, 1854.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The births of 1372 children were registered within the week ending January 7, in the metropolitan districts: of these, 679 were boys, and 694 were girls. The average of the first week of the nine preceding years was 1566. In the corresponding week of 1853 the births numbered 1911. The number of deaths within the week was 1445; the corrected average of the corresponding week, derived from the preceding ten years, was 1388—so that the mortality is 56 in excess: of those deaths, 656 were of children under fifteen years of age; 481 were of persons between fifteen and sixty years; and 368, at ages exceeding sixty years. The corrected averages of these periods of life are 614, 458, and 312, respectively—so that the mortality was, in children, 52 in excess; in persons in the prime of life it was 25 less than the average; and of men and women in advanced life, who had completed sixty, and upwards, it was 21 excess—so that the severity of the season has caused an excess of mortality in children and old persons. The number of fatal cases in zymotic diseases was 284 (their average, 250): this excess was caused chiefly by hooping-cough, which carried off no less than 86 children—being about the double of its corrected average. The deaths in other classes of diseases were about their averages, excepting in those of the lungs and of the other organs of respiration: their number was 352 (average 279)—189 of bronchitis, 104 of pneumonia, and 36 of asthma. To violence, privation, cold, and intemperance, 38 deaths were referred. Only two deaths were registered as caused by cholera.

CITY CORPORATION COMMISSION.

The Commissioners have renewed their labours this week at the Privy Council Chambers. The most interesting evidence which has yet been tendered was that contained in a defence of the Corporation, read by the Recorder. This document, which occupies nearly seven columns of the daily papers, goes through the whole of the charges brought against the Corporation, and endeavours to show that they are all either exaggerated or untrue. The gross income of the Corporation, instead of being what some of the witnesses stated, is said to average only £200,000 a year; and this, they allege, is all obtained from unobjectionable sources. The coal-tax is defended as the least injurious mode of raising money to promote public improvements. The banquets and shows are deemed neither expensive, useless, nor absurd; and the Corporation has not yet heard any good reason for abolishing them. The City police force is well managed; and so likewise is the lighting, paving, and sewerage of the City. The defence winds up with a comparison of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, in order to show how much the Corporation has accommodated itself to the advancing spirit of the age. As a specimen of what it has done in that respect, the defence states that—

"In the eighteenth century, and even at the commencement of the nineteenth century, the Corporation, with an income of £80,000 a year, remunerated their four standing committees with cash allowances to the annual amount of £1100, and tavern expenses *ad libitum*; amounting, upon an average of seven years, to upwards of £4000 per annum. But in the nineteenth century, by a series of resolutions, the same four committees, administering a revenue of £210,000 a year, discharge their duties without any money allowance, and with tavern bills restricted to £1200 among them all."

CROSBY HALL ELOCUTIONARY CLASS.—On Wednesday the first public entertainment of this class was held, under the presidency of Mr. Leopold Smart, to whose well-directed efforts the proficiency of its members are due. Three scenes from "The Merchant of Venice," "The Rivals," and "The Recruiting Officer," were very well given; and some recitations from the poets effectively delivered; nor were the various pieces of humour without merit. The practice of elocution cannot fail to be of great value to the rising generation; and the classes at Crosby Hall are evidently well conducted.

TESTIMONIAL.—A handsome silver tea and coffee service has just been presented to John Thwaites, Esq., by the directors and shareholders of the Surrey Consumers Gaslight Association (accompanied with a purse of 280 sovereigns), in testimony of the high sense entertained by them of the valuable services rendered by him to the association. The service weighs 103 ounces, and has been manufactured by Messrs. Benson, Cornhill.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL.—At a quarterly meeting of the Committee held in the Board-room of the Hospital, West Strand, on Tuesday last—R. Low, Esq., in the chair—a report of the operations of this charity for the past year was read. It appeared that 1203 in-patients and 13,452 out-patients had partaken of its benefits. The cost of effecting this great amount of good was £2568 12s. 5d. The committee have added additional wards and beds for sick children, and from forty to fifty more patients can be accommodated than heretofore. These wards will greatly increase the efficiency of the Hospital, and render it more worthy of the support of the benevolent.

COLDBATH-FIELDS HOUSE OF CORRECTION.—An important inquiry has been in progress some time, and is not yet completed, into certain matters in the financial administration of the Coldbath-fields Prison. One result has been the absconding of George C. Hoare, principal clerk in the finance department, and defalcations to a serious extent have been discovered in his books. A description of him has been published in the *Hue and Cry*, and a warrant for his apprehension placed in the hands of

the police. The inquiry is being carried on by the visiting justices, and Captain Williams, the Government Inspector of Prisons, and a Government short-hand writer has been in attendance.

CABINET COUNCIL.—A Cabinet Council was held at the Foreign-office, Downing-street, on Tuesday afternoon. The Ministers present were—The Earl of Aberdeen, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, the Marquis of Lansdowne, Viscount Palmerston, the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Newcastle, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir James Graham, Sir Charles Wood, the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, and Sir William Molesworth. The Council sat four hours.

HILARY TERM.—Wednesday, being the first day of Hilary Term, the Lord Chancellor entertained the Judges of the several equity and common law courts, the leading Queen's counsel, and the sergeants-at-law, at breakfast, at his mansion in Upper Brook-street. Shortly after one o'clock the Lord Chancellor and the Judges left his Lordship's mansion, and proceeded in state to Westminster. The legal cortege arrived at Westminster Hall shortly before two o'clock, preceded by the High Constable of Westminster. The hall was well filled with spectators, principally ladies, anxious to witness the Judges appearing in their full state robes. The Lord Chancellor and the Judges were received at the entrance of the Court of Common Pleas by the Sergeants-at-law, and from thence they passed to and opened their respective courts.

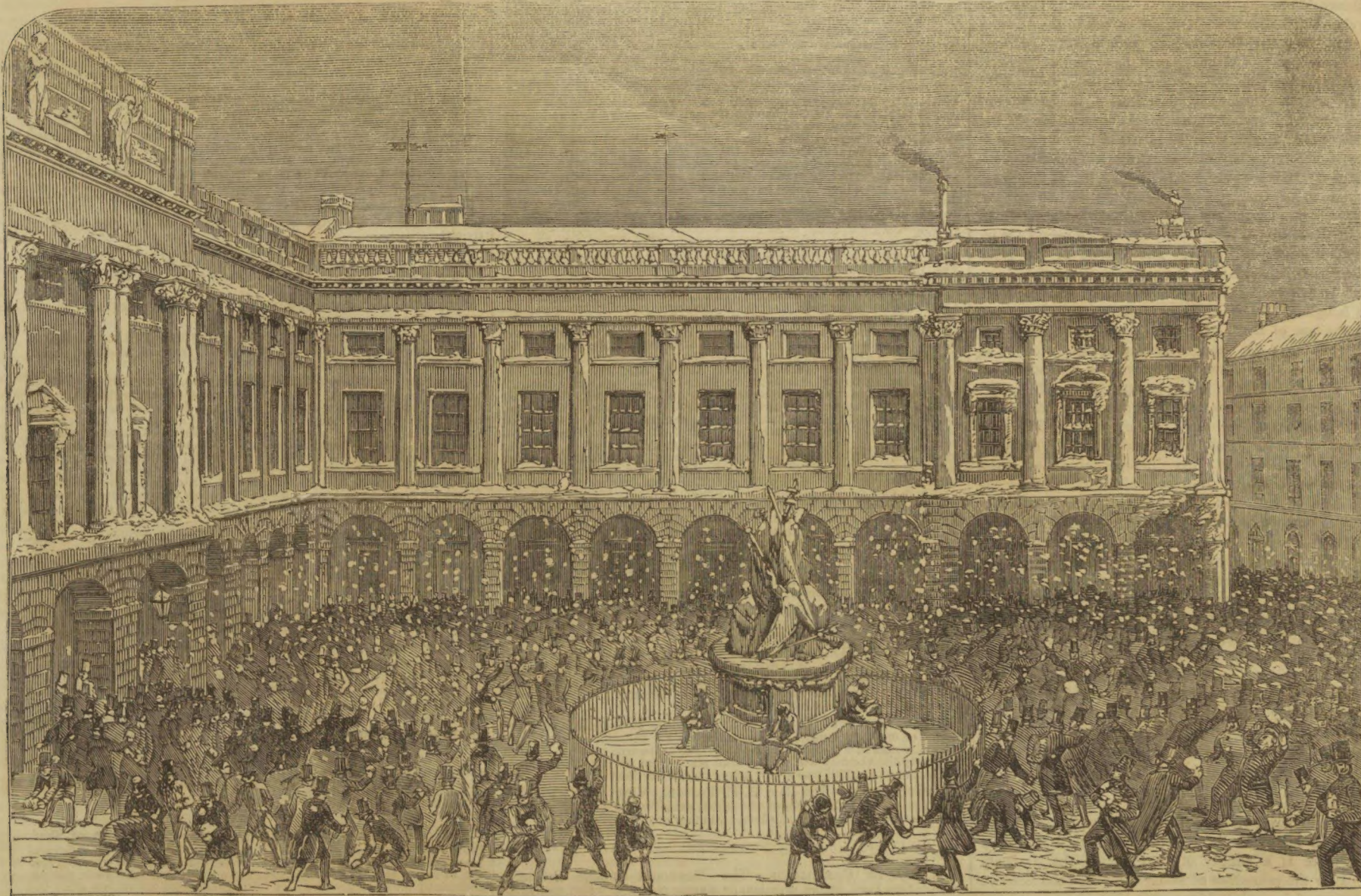
ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—The bakers have this week made a simultaneous advance in the price of bread. The 4lb. loaf, which was selling last week at 9d., 9½., and 10d., cannot now be obtained for less than 9½d., 10d., and 11d. respectively. Household or country bread is advanced 1d.; viz., from 8½d. to 9½d.; the League Bakery bread is at 10d. the 4lb. loaf, and the best, or full-priced, is from 1s. to 1s. 0½. The reason assigned for this increase in price is, that flour, which could be had last week at 7s., is now fully 7½s.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.—The Metropolitan Poultry Show, at the King-street Bazaar, during the last week, has been indirectly tributary of visitors to Madame Tussaud's curious collection of waxwork costumes, and memorials of distinguished persons; among which the relics of the Emperor Napoleon are prominently attractive.

TELEGRAPH BY NIGHT TO THE CONTINENT.—In reference to the statement which lately appeared, to the effect that the Governments on the Continent had not extended to this country the advantages of night service which they had established with each other, we have learned that the Submarine and European Telegraph Companies have already concluded arrangements with the Continental Governments for a night service between the various countries and England. All the most important towns of France, Belgium, and Germany will in future be open both by day and night for the transmission of despatches.

A CHAPTER OF ACCIDENTS.—The driver of the mail cart between Trowbridge and Chippenham, has experienced a most unfortunate Christmas. One night last week his horse fell down, and the mail cart was very much damaged. On Sunday night, when leaving Lacock, the horse again fell, and broke off both shafts of the vehicle he was then driving; and, on Tuesday night week, on the road to Lacock, the horse took fright, and the driver was thrown off, the cart entirely beaten to pieces, and the horse much injured.

An agitation is in progress in the City for the purpose of "procuring an alteration in the existing laws relating to the assessment of the poor-rate and the removal of chargeable poor." It has been resolved on to request the Lord Mayor or to call a public meeting on the subject as early as possible.



SNOWBALLING UPON THE LIVERPOOL EXCHANGE.

SNOWBALLING ON LIVERPOOL 'CHANGE.

An amusing scene was transacted on 'Change, at Liverpool, on Thursday week. The cotton-brokers and share-brokers, between whom there is frequently a good deal of harmless rivalry, having no London papers to read, commenced a regular snowball engagement, which lasted nearly two hours. The contest commenced about two o'clock, and did not terminate till nearly four. For some time the battle raged with great waste of ammunition, and victory seemed doubtful. The snowballs flew in all directions, in some instances infringing somewhat disagreeably upon the faces of the combatants. Many fell in the conflict from the effects of blows, or from the slippery state of the ground; but, nothing daunted, they rose again, and renewed the fight. Hats were knocked off, and trodden under foot, many of them being so disfigured that they could not be identified by their owners. In order to keep up a continued fire, a portion of the troops made balls, while others were actively engaged in warfare; and the former, when prepared with ammunition, then advanced to the attack. At one period the cotton corps seemed to be gaining advantage, as they drove the enemy into a corner; the share-brokers, however, after a slight retreat, rallied, and almost routed their adversaries, making considerable havoc amongst them. It is but justice to say, that, although the sport was carried on with great spirit on both sides, the utmost good-feeling prevailed, and no exhibition of ill-temper occurred. All seemed animated with the

spirit of their schoolboy days, and resolved to engage merely in a little harmless sport. Several squares of glass in the Exchange News-room were broken; and, during the heat of battle, a ball went through a window of the Council-chamber while a member of the Health Committee was speaking. The shock put a momentary stop to the flow of his eloquence; but, on ascertaining that no mischief had been done, he resumed his address.

During the heat of the engagement, Captain Greig, head-constable, having been directed by the Mayor to request that an armistice should take place, was imprudent enough to risk himself, along with a few policemen, on the battle-ground. But the brokers would brook no interference. They assailed the head-constable with the missiles they were using, knocked his hat off several times, and otherwise handled him rather roughly. To such treatment the man of order could not submit, and, therefore, several of the leading brokers—among whom were some of the principal cotton and share-brokers—were taken into custody. They were marched off to the Central Police-office, amidst loud marks of disapprobation towards the police, who were considered guilty of improper interference. After some explanation, the prisoners were liberated. The battle then recommenced, and was continued as vigorously as ever for a short time, when the head-constable again made his appearance, under authority from the Mayor, to intimate to the gentlemen in the Exchange News-room the desirability of putting an

end to the contest. On entering the news-room he attempted to state the object of his mission, but was instantly met with hootings, cries of "Out with him!" and other marks of disapprobation. In vain he attempted to speak; his audience would not hear a word; and a mob of them having got round him, they ultimately forced him to leave the room, amidst loud applause from within and without the building. The snowballing was then renewed, and kept up with considerable vigour until nearly four o'clock.

A gentleman who saw the whole of the extraordinary scene says the snowball contest lasted altogether for about an hour and a half; that it was witnessed or participated in by about 300 of the gentlemen who usually assemble on 'Change; that it was commenced in the sportive and jocose spirit often generated by the unexpected enjoyment of leisure; that it was, throughout, conducted in the most good-humoured and inoffensive manner; that even those who were knocked down got up and renewed the contest in a spirit of hearty and kindly enjoyment; in fact, that if it had been a battle between ladies on the one side and gentlemen on the other, it could not have been carried on in a more gallant and considerate manner. The contest was exhilarating even to the spectators; and so heartily did some of the oldest and most respectable frequenters of 'Change enjoy the novelty, the earnestness, and the gentlemanly spirit of the contest, that they frequently applauded the combatants, and urged them to continue the sportive strife.



## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, January 15.—2nd Sunday after Epiphany.  
 MONDAY, 16.—Gibbon died, 1794. Battle of Corunna, 1809.  
 TUESDAY, 17.—First stone of the Royal Exchange laid, 1842.  
 WEDNESDAY, 18.—St. Frisca. Old Twelfth Day.  
 THURSDAY, 19.—Copernicus born, 1473. Earl of Surrey beheaded, 1547.  
 FRIDAY, 20.—American Independence acknowledged, 1783.  
 SATURDAY, 21.—Louis XVI. guillotined, 1793.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE,  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
2 50	3 10	3 25	3 45	4 0	4 15	4 30

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## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1854.

THE press of this country is unanimous as well as cordial in its denunciation of the conduct of the Czar. At one time it is true that a public journal of considerable power and influence endeavoured to serve the cause of Russian ambition by unfounded accusations against the Turkish Government, and by equally unfounded laudation of the Czar. But that journal speedily discovered that it was on the wrong tack, and for the last month or six weeks has steadily advocated the rightful side. We are not aware of a single British journal which is at the present moment, either openly or covertly, the supporter of Russia. In France, however, the case is different. Although the press of France only exists upon sufferance, and can by no means be considered the free and unbiassed organ of public opinion, it is allowed sufficient liberty on questions of foreign policy to free it from the suspicion of being under the absolute control of the Government. A small portion of the French press is not ashamed to flatter the ambition of Russia, to goad it on to further violence, and to condemn the alliance between Great Britain and France. The partisans of what is termed the fusion between the elder and younger branches of the House of Bourbon are mean and cowardly enough, in the desperate state of their fortunes, to look with favour upon a Russian alliance as the only means of restoring Henry V. to the throne of his ancestors. They feel that, if the claims of Bourbon and Orleans are left to the decision of the French people, they have no more prospect of the Crown of France than the Duke de Modena has of the Crown of England. But, rather than not see their idol restored to its place, they would have it set up for their adoration by the enemy of the liberties of Europe. They would rather that France should be humiliated by the enthronisation of their *Fetish*, amid the salvos of Russian artillery and the support of Russian bayonets and Cossack lances, than renounce all hope for Henry V. and Louis Philippe II. If there ever was a chance in a country so notorious for change of dynasty and Government, that something might turn up in their favour by the storms of revolution, they have destroyed it by such base and anti-national policy. The friends of the elder branch of the Bourbons claim to be the representatives of honour, chivalry, and patriotism. The next time they talk of their honour, the indignant hisses of Europe will remind them that dishonour is the fate of those who, for a presumed personal advantage, take the side of the wrong-doer against his victim. The next time they talk of their chivalry, they will be reminded that it was the pride of chivalry to help the oppressed, and to fight even in a losing cause, if it were the cause of justice and humanity. Should they ever dare talk of their patriotism, it will be cast in their teeth, to their eternal disgrace, that they would have sold the independence of their country to a foreign barbarian if they could thereby have increased their slender chance of regaining possession of the Tuileries. But the Bourbons of both houses are true to their ancient character; "they have never learned anything from adversity." The hopeless stupidity of the one branch, and the hopeless pedlars of the other, have sealed their doom; and the recent efforts of their organs in the press to embarrass the present Government of France, and to sow mistrust and disunion between the British and French people, have but served to cement the alliance, and to strengthen the throne of Louis Napoleon. Their "fusion" has been their "confusion;" and the young Count de Paris, who might have been a considerable personage, if he had had no effete cousin and no intriguing uncles to cloud his prospects, need encourage no hopes of ever ascending the throne of his grandfather. The friendship of such partisans as are possessed by the Legitimists is not simply dangerous—it is fatal.

BREAD riots are no novelty. "It is ill to reason," says the old proverb, "with a hungry belly." Whenever corn rises to a famine price, there is a danger of riots among the destitute population. If to the calamities of hunger be added the miseries of cold, the reason of the multitude too often gives way to a savage instinct, which exists more or less in all men, and which is only to be controlled by reason and education. The riots at Bristol and other parts of the west of England, which have occurred during the present week, show no peculiar ill-feeling. Millers and bakers become invariably the objects of popular dislike, as the price of the loaf rises. The hungry and the ignorant know these traders; but their acquaintance with the laws of social and political economy which regulate the dealings of these men, as well as those of all other tradesmen, are things beyond their comprehension. They expect superhuman virtue from the baker, and seem to think that the miller ought to grind and sell to his own ruin, rather than that the price of flour should advance a farthing:

Two millers thin, named Bone and Skin—  
 They grind the poor, or near it;  
 But be it known to Skin and Bone  
 That Flesh and Blood won't bear it.

Such is the logic of the ignorant when they are hungry. The mere thieves, who always turn up on such occasions, are

but too glad to exercise their propensities with a mob at their back. In Paris, at the close of the last and the commencement of the present century, the bakers' shops were so often besieged by the populace, that, by the advice and with the sanction of the Government, they barricaded their windows with strong iron bars, which the stranger at Paris may observe to this day. There have been bread riots in every civilised country under the sun; and it is well for a Government, when such events occur, if its members can absolve their consciences from the guilt of having, by their unwise legislation, created, or helped to create, an artificial scarcity. The bulk of the people of England know that, however dear bread may be, it is as cheap as it is anywhere else; and that no efforts of any Government, or of any men or class of men, could, by possibility, have made it cheaper. No misgiving can, in such circumstances, paralyse the arm of authority. We may pity the misguided men—but we must punish them. The mass of the people know that if Free-trade cannot give them a cheap loaf when there is a deficient harvest, nothing can; and they know, also, that a benevolent Poor-law will prevent the really destitute from dying of starvation. Whatever legislation can do is done, in this country, to prevent scarcity, and to help its inevitable victims. Such foolish and wicked assaults upon the property of unoffending men will, therefore, meet with no sympathy; and there is no reason to fear that the example of Bristol and Exeter will be extensively followed; or, if followed, that the perpetrators will not be promptly and severely punished.

## CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &amp;c.

CONSECRATION.—On Thursday, the 5th of January, a new church was consecrated at Northwood, in the parish of Ruislip, a hamlet distant three miles from the parish church, and on the borders of Rickmansworth and Watford; and the district assigned to the new consolidated chapel is composed of portions of the three parishes. The edifice has been built by subscription. Lord Robert Grosvenor, in whom the patronage is vested, has given the ground, and endowed it. It is situated a little more than a mile distant from Moor-park. Although the district is in the two dioceses of London and Rochester, the ceremony of consecration was performed by the Bishop of London, on account of the church being in Middlesex. The Bishop was entertained by Lord Grosvenor, at Moor-park, on the previous day, but was obliged to return home after the service. A large party partook of a *déjeuner* given by his Lordship, at Moor-park, in the course of the afternoon. Tea and cakes were served to the school children, in the school-house, near the Church; and, on the following day, 110 old men and women, and others who had been recently employed, in the very arduous duty of keeping the roads clear of snow, were regaled with a substantial dinner in the conservatory at Moor-park. An evening service was performed in the church, on the day of consecration, at half-past six o'clock, by the Rev. H. Loring, Rector of Cobham; and, on the following day, being Epiphany, lectures were delivered after both morning and evening service, by the Rev. Joseph Baylee, D.D., Principal of the College at Birkenhead. The church, which is intended to accommodate 300 persons in nave and chancel, is in the Early Decorated style, and has a tower, a shingle spire, and five stained-glass windows. The architect is Mr. Teulon.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S VISITATION OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.—On Monday and Tuesday the Bishop of London, assisted by Sir John Patteson, and Dr. Stephen Lushington, as assessors, held an inquiry into the alleged abuses of the revenues of the metropolitan cathedral by the Dean and Chapter. The Dean, Canon Villiers, and Canon Champneys, as also several of the minor Canons and other gentlemen officially connected with the cathedral, were present. Mr. Kolt, Dr. R. Phillimore, and Mr. Hale were employed professionally—the principal point of which is, whether the Minor Canons have a right to share in the revenues of the Cathedral. The Bishop of London thanked the learned assessors for the assistance they had rendered him, and said he would take time to consider his decision.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Rev. J. Jones, Rector of Cricketh, Carnarvonshire, to be a Rural Dean. *Rectories*: The Rev. H. Caddell, to Atwick, near Hull; Rev. H. M. Fletcher, to North Stoke, Somerset; Hon. and Rev. A. A. B. Hanbury, to Shobdon, near Leominster; Hon. and Rev. A. Douglas, to Curry Mallet, Somerset; Rev. H. F. Strangways, to Kilmington, Somerset; Rev. J. H. R. Sumner, M.A., to Brasted, near Sevenoaks; Rev. G. Burd, to Sheinton, Shropshire; Rev. F. Broome, to Adderley, near Market Drayton; Rev. J. T. Bennett, to St. Mary Aldermay and St. Thomas the Apostle, London; Rev. J. Hart, to Somerby, Lincolnshire; Rev. M. Jefferys, to South Thoresby, Alford; Rev. W. J. Deane, to Ashen, Essex; Rev. C. Randolph, to East Garston, Berkshire; Rev. H. Dale, to Wilby, near Northampton; Rev. B. S. Patrick, to Weston Begard, near Hereford. *Vicarages*: The Rev. H. F. Bacon, to Castleton, Derbyshire; Rev. F. Bennett, to Shrewton, near Devizes; Rev. A. Brooke, to East Retford, Nottinghamshire; Rev. C. Nutt, to East Harptree, Somerset; Rev. E. Bagley, to Woburn, Bedfordshire; Rev. W. Gell, to Pulloxhill, Bedfordshire; Rev. S. G. Selwyn, to Milton Cleveland, Somerset; Rev. J. E. A. Leigh, to Bray, near Maidenhead. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. J. Hodges, to Middleton, Yorkshire; Rev. W. Smith, to Cowick, Yorkshire; Rev. E. Syngue, to Trinity Church, Matlock; Rev. R. Hawes, to Tunstall, Staffordshire; Rev. R. J. S. Valentine, to Trinity Church, Portsea; Rev. J. Woolley, to St. George's, Portsea; Rev. J. H. Compton, to Kidmore-end, near Reading; Rev. L. C. Bathurst, to Wythall, near Birmingham; Rev. W. C. Evans, to Campsall, near Doncaster; Rev. C. J. Westropp, to Hunningham, Warwickshire; Rev. T. G. M. Luccock, to Little Berwick, Shropshire; Rev. J. D. Massingham, to St. Paul's, Derby. *Perpetual Curacies*: The Rev. H. Munn, to Christ Church, Nailsea, Somerset; Rev. H. C. Sellar, to Trull, Somerset.

THE Bishop of Worcester has intimated his intention of holding a general ordination in the Cathedral Church of his diocese on Sunday, March 12. The Bishop requires all candidates for Deacons' orders to offer themselves at least three months previous to the time.

THE Convocation of York will meet in the Chapter-house at York, immediately after the Minister service, on Wednesday morning, Feb. 1. The Canon in residence (Rev. W. V. Harcourt) will preside as Commissioner for the Archbishop.

By the decease of the Rev. William Hodge Mill, D.D., a vacancy occurs of one of the proctors in convocation for the diocese of Canterbury. A mandate from the Archbishop is to be issued, and an election to supply the vacancy will shortly take place from among the clergy of the diocese. Dr. Mill was a very active member of that body.

TESTIMONIAL.—The Rev. H. H. Pearson, Vicar of Norton, has been presented by the ladies of the parish with a suit of clerical robes, a pocket communion-service in silver, and other silver articles.

MAYNOOTH COMMISSION.—The Maynooth College Commissioners have been sitting occasionally during the past week, and some further meetings for the examination of witnesses will be held this week, after which an adjournment will take place, probably for two months. In all likelihood, the report of the Commissioners will be ready for presentation to Parliament soon after the Easter recess.

THE WONDERS OF CIVILISATION IN INDIA.—The railway and the electric telegraph are attracting many native chiefs from the interior of India to Bombay. There was lately encamped on the island, with 2000 of his followers, the Rajah of Dhar, Rao Jeswant Powar, a Rajpoot chief with a revenue of about £65,000, but principally remarkable for being the head of the great family of Powar, of which (as antiquaries suppose) Porus, the antagonist of Alexander, was a member. He has been admiring the gunnery practice of the Indian navy, the war-steamer now ready for launching in the Dockyard, the steam-machinery of the Factory and Mint, and, above all, the railway; and will return to his capital impressed with a high idea of the arts and resources of the British in India.

LIONS FROM ALEXANDRIA.—Letters from Alexandria of the 3rd inst., mention that the *Colombo* steamer—which made the voyage from Southampton in ten days and fourteen hours (the quickest passage on record)—was to sail for England next day, and may, therefore, be expected at Southampton daily. Among the passengers by the *Colombo* is the Earl of Carlisle, who arrived at Alexandria on the 24th ult. in the *Wasp*, from Beyrout. His Lordship intended to visit Upper Egypt, but the rumoured changes in the Ministry, and other news made him determine to return to England at once. The much spoken of Guzerat lions are also coming by this vessel; they are said to be exceedingly fine beasts, four years and three months old. This species of lion has not hitherto been introduced into England. They are intended for the Zoological Gardens, Regent's-park.

## THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince, with the youthful members of the Royal family, continue in the enjoyment of excellent health. Her Majesty has received, during the week, a succession of distinguished visitors at Windsor Castle. The Earl of Aberdeen has been a guest at the Royal table more than once; and other members of the Ministry have been commanded to attend at the Castle. The Marquis of Lansdowne, with his son and daughter-in-law, the Earl and Countess of Shelburne, closed their visit on Saturday last.

On Sunday, the Queen and the Prince attended an early service in the private chapel of the Castle, and received the holy Sacrament. Her Majesty and his Royal Highness were also present at the afternoon service.

On Monday the Queen and the Prince walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle. His Royal Highness afterwards rode out on horseback, attended by Colonel Bouverie. In the evening her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent dined with her Majesty. The Earl of Aberdeen, the Right Hon. H. Labouchere and Lady Mary Labouchere, and Lady Elizabeth Grey, had the honour of joining the Royal party.

On Tuesday the Queen walked in the Home Park at an early hour. The Prince Consort went out shooting. In the course of the day Earl Spencer arrived from London, and had an audience of her Majesty, to receive his wand of office on being appointed Lord Steward of the Household, in the place of the Duke of Norfolk, who has resigned. In the evening the Duchess of Kent again dined with the Queen. The following had the honour of joining the Royal party:—His Excellency Lord Bloomfield and Lady Bloomfield, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Earl Spencer, the Earl and Countess of Mulgrave, and Viscount and Viscountess Sydney.

On Wednesday the Queen and the Prince walked in the Home-park and the Slopes. His Royal Highness afterwards rode out on horseback. The dinner party in the evening included, in addition to the Duchess of Kent, the Lord Chancellor and Lady Crawworth, the Marquis and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Earl and Countess of Derby, and Lady Emma Stanley, Viscount Jocelyn, and Major-General Sir George Bowles.

On Thursday, the Queen, with the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, walked in the Home Park. The Prince Consort, accompanied by the Marquis of Salisbury, Viscount Sydney, the Earl of Mulgrave, Lord Bloomfield, and Major-General Sir George Bowles, went out shooting. In the evening a dramatic performance took place in the Rubens Room, at the Castle. The play selected was Sir E. Lytton Bulwer's comedy of "Money." Mr. Charles Kean, Mr. Webster, Mr. Buckstone, and Mr. A. Wigan filled the principal characters.

Lord George Lennox has succeeded Lieut.-Colonel F. Seymour in attendance on the Prince.

The Earl and Countess of Derby and Lady Emma Stanley arrived in St. James's-square, from Knowley, on Tuesday evening, and on Wednesday left town for Windsor Castle, on a visit to her Majesty.

The Earl of Minto and Lady Charlotte Elliot are making a tour in the Italian States.

Mrs. W. E. Gladstone, the wife of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, gave birth to a son on Saturday last, at the official residence of the right hon. gentleman, in Downing-street.

Married, on the 5th inst., at Sutton Coldfield, Sir Francis Edward Scott, Bart., of Great Barr Hall, Staffordshire, to Mildred Anne, eldest daughter of Sir William Cradock Hartopp, Bart., of Four Oaks Hall, Warwickshire, and Gumley Hall, Leicestershire.

## NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVAL OF THE "SERPENT."—The *Serpent*, 12, Commander Edward H. G. Lambert, arrived at Spithead on Tuesday. She brings home nothing but herself—her sailings and doings having been anticipated. She left Sydney on the 26th of July; New Zealand, 14th of August; Valparaiso, 13th of October; arrived at the Falkland Islands on the 31st.—The *Thetis*, with treasure on board, left two days previous for England (via Rio). Left at Valparaiso her Majesty's ship *Portland*, 50, and sailed from thence direct to England. She left England in October, 1849, and has gone over about 80,000 miles; brings home about half a dozen invalids. Her own officers and crew are all well.—Rear-Admiral Fairfax Moresby, in the flag-ship *Portland*, was at Valparaiso, and had, a few days prior to the *Serpent's* leaving that port, just had the news of his being succeeded by Rear-Admiral David Price, in the *President*.—The *Dido*, 18, Captain Morshead, had left Valparaiso for Pitcairn's Island; after which she was to visit the coast to collect freight.

The *Banshee*, 3, paddle-wheel steam-vessel, Lieut. Louis R. Reynolds, having completed coaling, went out of harbour to Spithead on Wednesday, and anchored there. She is to serve as a despatch vessel to Admiral Dundas's fleet.

The *Blenheim*, 60, screw guard-ship, Capt. the Hon. F. T. Pelham, remains in dock undergoing repairs.

The *Duke of Marlborough*, 131, screw three-decker, building in Portsmouth yard, makes a very perceptible progress, assuming an imposing and gigantic appearance.

The *Simoom*, 18, iron screw troop-frigate, Captain Henry Smith, arrived at Spithead, with the Rifles and some Royal Artillery from the Cape of Good Hope, on Saturday. She came into harbour on Tuesday morning, and hauled alongside the sheers jetty; soon after which, on the Captain's landing, the whole of the troops on board, together with the blue jackets, ranged themselves from the poop to the head-rails, and gave Captain Smith three hearty cheers. The Royal Artillery soon after this disembarked, and marched out of the yard, their brass band playing "Auld Lang Syne." The Rifles landed on Wednesday, and proceeded to Dover via South Coast line. This gallant corps was marched to the railway station by the bands of the 2nd Battalion, the 35th, and the 79th Regiments.

NEW SCREW-STEAMER.—The saw-mills at Woolwich Dock-yard are actively employed in converting timber for the *Edgar*, 90, screw-steamship, of the same class as the *Agamemnon*, and building on the same slip from which the *Agamemnon* was launched. The *Edgar* is progressing fast in her construction.

MERCHANT SEAMEN.—The Lords of the Admiralty have exercised the powers given to them by the 13 and 14 Vic. chap. 93, to dispense with so much of the Act 7 and 8 Vic. chap. 112, as relates to the system of registering seamen by means of tickets.

THE WELLINGTON COLLEGE.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to grant a Charter of Incorporation for the Wellington College. The subject is one of great interest to the army in particular, and to the public in general.

TROOPS FOR FOREIGN SERVICE.—Transports are daily expected in Queenstown, for conveyance of the service companies of the 9th and 62nd Regiments on foreign service. It is rumoured in military circles that it is in contemplation to strengthen the different regiments doing duty in the Mediterranean with a reserve battalion. On the score of economy, reserve battalions are advantageous, for no additional staff is requisite.—*Cork Constitution*.

SOAP AS A MEANS OF ART.—Dr. Ferguson Branson, of Sheffield, writing in the "Journal of the Society of Arts," says:—"Several years ago, I was endeavouring to find an easy substitute for wood engraving, or rather to find out a substance more readily cut than wood, and yet sufficiently firm to allow of a cast being taken from the surface when the design was finished, to be re-produced in type metal, or by the electrolytic process. After trying various substances, I at last hit upon one which at first promised success, viz., the very common substance called soap; but I found that much more skill than I possessed was required to cut the fine lines for surface printing. A very little experience with the material convinced me that, though it might not supply the place of wood for surface printing, it contained within itself the capability of being extensively applied to various useful and artistic processes in a manner hitherto unknown. Die-sinking is a tedious process, and no method of die-sinking that I know of admits of freedom of handling. A drawing may be executed with a hard point on a smooth piece of soap almost as readily, as freely, and in as short a time, as an ordinary drawing with a lead pencil. Every touch thus produced is clear, sharp, and well defined. When the drawing is finished, a cast may be taken from the surface in plaster; or, better still, by pressing the soap firmly into heated gutta-percha. In gutta-percha several impressions may be taken without injuring the soap, so as to admit of 'proofs' being taken, and corrections made—a very valuable and practical good quality in soap. It will even bear being pressed into melted sealing-wax without injury. I have never tried a sulphur mould; but I imagine an impression from the soap could easily be taken by that method." Dr. Branson has also employed bees-wax, white wax, sealing-wax, lacs, as well as other plastic bodies; and in some of these cases a heated steel knitting-needle, or point, was substituted for the ivory knitting-needle. He has sent several specimens to the Society of Arts, which show that from the gutta-percha or plastic cast a cast in brass may be obtained, with the impression either sunk or in relief.

TRANSHIPMENT OF SPECIE TO FRANCE.—Of the gold brought to this country by the *Asia*, at Liverpool, from the United States (\$32,759 dollars) the greater portion, viz., 282,000, was for French merchants, and was transhipped in the *Margaret* from Liverpool to Havre.



## POSTSCRIPT.

## FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

We regret to have to announce to our readers that the commencement of the year 1854 has been marked by an act of open rebellion against supreme authority, which is the more serious in that it is manifested in the upper ranks of society, and among a class which has hitherto—no matter whatever the various private opinions of its members—refrained from any overt demonstration of resistance to the orders of “the powers that be.” We allude to the insurrection of the ladies of Paris on the grave question of Court etiquette, involved in the matter of trains, in which the heads of the State have received a check, so much the more mortifying, that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to inflict on the fair insurgents the punishment due to their disobedience, and that there seems to be no course left open but to pocket the affront. At the Reception, on the occasion of the New Year, not more than two hundred ladies, including foreigners, independent of those about the Empress, were present, in consequence of the absolute necessity of the *moniteur de cour* on the occasion, and as upwards of three times that number were already invited to the ball of the 4th, or must be invited to the Court fêtes, whose non-appearance at the Reception was significant of their intentions on the subject, it is too late to attempt to exclude the *récalcitrantes*—that is to say, three-quarters of the women of society, whose position gives them a prescriptive right to be present on such occasions. The Empress, instead of the dress and train of cloth of silver, prepared for the event, wore one of cloth of gold, with crimson flowers in relief, offered by the town of Lyons for this Reception. Some magnificent toilettes appeared; the prevailing colours were white and violet, and, in most instances, the dress and train were of the same material and shade. Although the ceremony was not long, the Empress was evidently fatigued before its conclusion; some confusion took place at the *sortie*, it being expected that each person or party would leave after having defied before their Majesties; but the fairer portion of the company, not having seen enough of the toilette of the Empress, the Princess Mathilde, &c., or perhaps not shown enough of their own, remained till the latest moment, and then all departed, pell-mell, by the single door opened for the occasion.

The ball of the 4th was magnificent; but like all the Court fêtes, cold. Louis Napoleon danced the first quadrille with the Princess Mathilde, and waltzed with Madame de Persigny; the Empress only danced in the first *contre danse*—her partner was the Prince Napoleon; on this occasion she appeared in a dress of blue Lyons silk, with white flowers, and trimmed with knots of blue and silver ribbon. The Duke of Brunswick figured in a uniform of which no description can render a correct idea; suffice it to say that diamonds seemed to form the principal material of his dress. Vely Pacha's costume came next for brilliancy among those of the *laid seze*. The illness of one of their children prevented the attendance of Lord and Lady Cowley. About twelve o'clock the report was spread that a despatch of the utmost importance had just arrived from Russia, wholly tending to a warlike demonstration, which caused the Emperor to retire almost immediately. At this ball, the first after the declaration that the train is *de rigueur* for the court fêtes, the number of these necessary appendages amounted to twenty—eleven borne by the wives of Deputies, nine by those of Senators! The husbands were *bien autrement* docile last year on the subject of the *colottes courtes*; and Heaven knows what good reasons the majority had for resistance.

A report existed some days since that the Marquis de Turgot had been recalled, in consequence of the affair of the late complication of duels at Madrid; so far from this being the fact, we are informed, on tolerably good authority, that he received a very flattering letter from the *Chef de l'Etat*; and, without affirming this statement as a fact, we do not hesitate to assert that Louis Napoleon has approved, rather than reprobated, his conduct in the affair.

The intense cold has entirely, and we trust permanently, given way. During eight-and-forty hours a constant *surveillance*, night and day, was preserved, in order to prevent the alarming accidents threatened by the breaking up of the ice on the Seine; and it was with the utmost difficulty, despite these precautions, that the bridges and the baths and wash-houses established on the river were secured against the shocks of the floating masses. During the interruption of the navigation the price of coal augmented upwards of one-third. The damage done to the macadam and the pavement in the streets has been very considerable, and will entail considerable expense.

The project for building Imperial palaces in the neighbourhood of the principal towns in France, some time since spoken of, has not been abandoned. It is said that the site of that near Lyons is already fixed upon.

The fact announced in the *Moniteur*, that the Prince de Chinay had had an interview with Louis Napoleon, in which he presented to him a private letter from the King of the Belgians, has produced much speculation and attention. In the absence of any satisfactory intelligence on the subject, some suppose that the purport of the letter in question is to express the intention of the King to follow in the footsteps of England and France in the case of war becoming inevitable. Others believe that it is to announce an intention, or at least a desire which he has for some time been supposed to entertain, to renew the efforts already made to induce the Emperor of Russia to arrive at measures of conciliation.

Great sensation has been produced in the diplomatic circle by the omission of M. de Kisseleff, the Russian Ambassador, in the invitations given for the select ball at the Tuileries. Every other member of the diplomatic corps has been invited; and as this is a ball *d'élite*, the slight put upon M. de Kisseleff is the more remarkable. The invitations are given, it is true, not in the name of the Emperor, but in that of the Empress; but it is generally understood that M. de Kisseleff would not have been left out without the formal order of the Emperor. Some persons imagine that this has been done by his Majesty to punish M. de Kisseleff for some remark which he is said to have made before the Imperial marriage, and which applied more to the Empress than to the Emperor; but this is not probable, for he has been always invited to the parties of the Empress until now, and was always very graciously received by her Majesty.

The recall of General de Castelbajac from St. Petersburg is spoken of at Paris, as not unlikely to take place before long; the gentleman designated as his successor being the Count de Reiset, his first Secretary of Embassy. It appears that the Emperor was exceedingly displeased at the conduct of the representative of France at the Court of Russia, particularly at his strange act in going to offer his congratulations to the Czar on the victory of Sinope. “It is not, sire,” he is represented as having said to the Emperor of Russia, “it is not as Ambassador of France that I felicitate you; but as a military man.” “It was precisely as a military man,” was the remark of an august personage in France, on hearing of this saying of the Ambassador, “that M. de Castelbajac ought not to have offered congratulations on such a victory.”

A levy of 10,000 seamen is very currently spoken of in Paris. Already, indeed, measures have been commenced at Havre for calling out such seamen as have been dismissed for more than one year. The Minister of Marine (M. Ducos) is at the present moment organising a third squadron, to be called that of the reserve, and to consist of seven line-of-battle-ships and six frigates. The expense is calculated at ten millions of francs; and it is said that M. Ducos, who is one of the firmest supporters of war in the whole Ministry, is displaying great activity in effecting this increase to the French navy.

On Sunday last a meeting of bankers and moneyed men took place in Paris, M. Königswater in the chair. It was decided at the meeting that a memorial should be at once drawn up, and presented to the Emperor, praying him to take into consideration the great pecuniary interests engaged in commercial and industrial undertakings in France and

throughout Europe, and not to allow himself to be lightly engaged in the difficulties of a distant war. The Emperor, it is said, replied to the persons who presented this memorial, that undoubtedly material interests possessed incontestable importance in his eyes, but that he could never place them above moral interests, and that a question of honour and national dignity must always weigh with him much more heavily in the scale than any mere question of money.

## TURKEY.

The most contradictory statements are given as to what proposition it is that the Divan has agreed to. The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says he is assured that the conditions accepted are “the abrogation of the existing treaties, virtually annulled as they are by the war—the evacuation of the Danubian Principalities as soon as possible by Russia guaranteed by the Powers—the withdrawal of the pretensions of Russia, as comprised in the note of Prince Menschikoff—the prohibition, in future, of Russia interfering in the internal concerns of the Ottoman Empire—and the understanding that, if any reclamations be found necessary, they shall proceed from the four Powers together.”

The *Patrie* of Wednesday night mentions a rumour that the Turkish army had obtained a signal victory at Kalafat, over a Russian corps of from 20,000 to 25,000 men. The same journal also stated that the Turks had obtained advantages in Asia.

The inhabitants of the Sandjak of Pask-of-Tchah, and those of the Sandjak of Tchaldia, on whom the Russians were said to have entirely reckoned, had declared openly for the Sultan. The report about the victory at Kalafat is founded on a despatch from Constantinople, dated the 31st, and brought by the *Chaplat*, which arrived at Marseilles on Tuesday, after a passage of ten days. Such intelligence, if it be true, ought to have been known at Vienna before this, as the engagement (for an affair with a Russian corps of 20,000 or 25,000 men can scarcely be called a skirmish) must have taken place nearly three weeks ago. The line of communication from Kalafat to Vienna is, however, in possession of the Russians, and that may account for a considerable delay.

Other accounts say that the French Government has received a despatch from Constantinople, announcing a great victory gained by Omer Pacha over the Russians in the neighbourhood of Kalafat. The Russians, who were more numerous than the Turks, had from 25,000 to 30,000 engaged. It is said, besides, that the great majority of the population of Lesser Wallachia have risen against the Russians; and the victory now gained by Omer Pacha is expected to decide such parts of the country as might still hesitate to join the insurgents. This insurrection would appear to be of an infinitely more general character than the partial outbreaks already reported from other quarters. Constantinople was said to be in the greatest joy and enthusiasm; the disaster of Sinope was almost forgotten in the delight caused by the signal advantage now gained. The news thus received is said to have produced a profound impression on the French Council of Ministers, which was convoked immediately on the arrival of the despatch at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The advantage thus obtained by the Turkish arms was not confined to a single encounter. Several took place—at Sistowa, and on the Danube in front of Isatchka and Matschin. The date given of these actions is the 19th December. The news of Omer Pacha's victory over from 25,000 to 30,000 Russians, arrived simultaneously in Paris by two different channels at the same time—from the French Consul at Bucharest, and from General Baraguay d'Hilliers, who wrote his account at the moment of the departure of the *Chaplat*, which arrived on Tuesday at Toulon. The despatch of the French General announced at the same time that the united squadrons were on the point of conveying 15,000 Turkish troops to Batoum, and that Schamyl had safely received all the ammunition and military stores which had been forwarded to him.

On the 26th ult. it was known at Constantinople, that a Russian squadron, composed of three sail of the line and several frigates, had been cruising for several days in the Black Sea. On the 22nd they were seen at a distance of three or four miles from the entrance of the Bosphorus. The telegraphic despatch from Vienna, on Wednesday, says—All the Russian ships of war in the Black Sea, have orders to return to Sebastopol.

The following letter from Bucharest shows that the Russians were preparing for an active campaign:—

BUCHAREST, Jan. 4.

Since the 29th of December there have been 40,000 (deduct 11,000 in hospital) men of the corps under Osten-Sacken in Wallachia. In Bessarabia, a new concentration of troops is going on. Near Kremansoff and Charcow preparations are made for the establishment of two camps of cavalry: each will be composed of 10,000 men. The park of artillery near Giurgevo is composed of 100 guns of large calibre; that of Galatz consists of 120 guns. The construction of the intrenchments near Bucharest continues north and south. Two companies of Sappers have arrived for that purpose from Giurgevo at Bucharest. The offensive movements of the Russians have commenced on a grand scale. The corps of Osten-Sacken advances in the midst of ice. The Russian forces in Lesser Wallachia advance in three columns. The corps which will operate against Kalafat is estimated at 22,000 men. The second marches through Karakal, and the third along the Aluta.

## AUSTRIA.

The accounts from the French Ambassador at Vienna to the French Government are said to be very satisfactory as to the intentions of the Austrian Cabinet in the Eastern Question. It appears that, although the Emperor of Austria, from motives which can be appreciated, will not stand forward as a determined adversary of the policy of the Emperor of Russia, he is really desirous to see that policy checked, his own good sense, and his private conferences or correspondence with Prince Metternich, having fully enlightened him as to the necessity of assisting the other Powers of Europe, directly or indirectly, in preventing the further aggrandisement of Russia. The anti-Russian policy of Prince Metternich is well known; but it is not generally known that the advice of this old diplomatist has been taken by the Emperor of Austria on the present occasion. On this subject, a letter from a diplomatist at Vienna contains the following passage:—

Our old friend Metternich has rendered, in his retirement, a service to his country even greater than any that he rendered when in office. He has opened the eyes of the Emperor to the danger of the counsels of the Russian party. Having been told that he was inconsistent, as formerly he had made no effort to check the designs of Russia in Turkey, he replied that his counsels had always been anti-Russian; and that he had never been passive except when France and Russia were in harmony, for then, he said, it would have been useless to protest. In a conversation with Count —, the Prince said, “You know that I was greatly opposed to the emancipation of Greece, for which I incurred reproach upon reproach. I was told that I was not a religious man to advocate the cause of the Turks against the Christians; but these reproaches did not alter my views. I wished to do everything possible for the independence of Germany, which must cease if one day Russia should become all powerful; and the emancipation of Greece was an additional instrument of power in the hands of Russia.”

## AUSTRALIA.

By the way of Singapore and overland, Adelaide papers are to hand to Nov. 1, a month later than previous advices. The South Australians, like their sister colonists, were much occupied with the political and social changes incidental to the new Constitution. The Colonial Parliament Bill was to be read a third time and passed on Nov. 1. The Governor was expected to dissolve the Council so soon as the current business of the session was concluded, in order to take the opinion of the colonists on the Parliament Bill. The consideration of the Colonial Estimates had been adjourned for a week, to allow time for the committee on the increase of salaries to bring up their report. The harvest prospects were encouraging; the only drawback was the scarcity of labour.

Hobart Town journals state that Governor Sir William Dennison intended to remove all the convicts from Norfolk Island to Launceston. This announcement had caused considerable excitement and dissatisfaction. On Sept. 23, an Address to her Majesty was moved in the Legislative Council, to prevent the introduction of the pardoned criminals located at Norfolk Island. The committee appointed had recommended a vote of £10,000 per annum for public education.

THE EGYPTIAN RAILWAY.—Mr. R. Stephenson, the eminent engineer and contractor for the Egyptian Railway, arrived at Alexandria on the 1st, in his yacht *Titanica*, to inspect the line, which is not progressing satisfactorily just now, as the rise of the water in Lake Mariotis has rendered it necessary to take up three or four miles of rails in order to raise the embankments beyond the reach of the inundation. The President of the Council at Cairo, Hassan Pacha, has given the engineers every assistance; but the war between Turkey and Russia has drawn so many men from Egypt that the Viceroy is unable to prosecute the works with vigour.

TOO LITTLE SNOW IN SWEDEN.—Great complaints are made in both Sweden and Norway on account of the want of snow—that indispensable railway for communication in the winter. As a consequence, prices are daily advancing. In Sweden, especially, there is a real famine in many districts.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

VERAX.—THE PROPOSED MATCH BETWEEN MR. STAUNTON AND MR. HARRWITZ.—We take it, that either Mr. Harwitz's “acceptance” of Mr. S.'s challenge was a piece of bravado, which he never intended to carry out, or those members of the London Chess-club who, according to their President's declaration, were prepared to back Mr. Harwitz, have lost all confidence in their champion since the melancholy exposure of his play in the late match. Whichever is the case, as Mr. H. has virtually declined the contest, his backers are bound in honour to pay over the forfeited stakes to the opposite party. There can be no two opinions among gentlemen upon this point, and the sooner it is done the better, both for the credit of Chess and all parties concerned.

## CHESS IN BELGIUM.

The following fine game was recently played in Brussels between Mr. HEYDEBRAND and Mr. STAUNTON. (Sicilian Opening).

BLACK (Mr. V. H.).	WHITE (Mr. S.).	BLACK (Mr. V. H.).	WHITE (Mr. S.).
1. P to K 4th	P to Q 4th	22. Kt to K 6th	B takes B
2. P to Q 4th (a)	P takes P	23. Kt takes B	Q R to Q 3rd
3. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	24. P takes P	Q Kt takes P
4. B to Q 4th	P to K 3rd	25. P to K Kt 4th	Q Kt to K 6th
5. K Kt takes P	B to Q 4th	26. K R takes R (ch)	Q takes R
6. K Kt to Q Kt 3rd	B to Q Kt 3rd	27. Q to K Kt 2nd	R takes Kt
(b)		28. Q takes Kt	Q to K 2nd
7. Castles	K Kt to K 2nd	29. Q to K B 3rd	R to Q B sq
8. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd (c)	30. Kt to Q 2nd	R to K B sq
9. Q B to K B 4th	P to K 4th	31. Q to K Kt 3rd	P to K R 3rd
10. Q B to K 3rd	B takes B (d)	32. Kt to Q B 4th	P to Q 4th
11. P takes B	Castles	33. Kt to Q Kt 6th	P to Q 5th
12. Q to K R 5th	Q to K sq (e)	(f)	
13. P to K 4th (f)	Kt to K Kt 3rd	34. K P takes P	P takes P
14. Q R to Q sq	Q to K 2nd (g)	35. R to K B sq (m)	R to Q sq
15. Q Kt to Q 6th	Q to her sq	36. P takes P	R takes P
16. P to Q R 5th	P to Q 3rd (h)	37. Q to Q B 3rd	Q to her 3rd
17. P to K R 3rd (i)	B to K 3rd	38. Q to Q R 3rd	Q to her sq (n)
18. Q R to Q R sq	Q R to Q B sq	39. Q to K 3rd	R to Q 6th
19. Q to K 2nd	K to R sq (k)	40. Q to K 4th	Q to her 3rd
20. P to Q B 3rd	Q Kt to K 2nd	41. R to K 3rd (o)	Q to Q B 4th (ch)
21. Q R to Q sq	P to K B 4th	42. K to B sq	Q to Q B 8th (ch)

And Black surrendered.

(a) This move, which Jaenisch and other authorities have pronounced the best that can be made at the present moment, was first given in Volume IV., page 33, of the *Chess Players' Chronicle*.

(b) We are not advocates of this move. It takes the Kt too far away from the grand point of action.

(c) Better, perhaps, to have Castled. Black could have gained nothing by playing his Q Kt to Kt 5th, and he does now obtain a very smart attack for some time.

(d) Hazardous, because, although it doubles two of the enemy's Pawns, it opens the battery of his King's Castle upon a weak point.

(e) The only way to escape some serious damage. If instead of this move he had played the natural one of K Kt to K Kt 3rd, the game would have gone on thus:—

12. K takes K B P      K Kt to K 3  
13. R takes K B P      R takes R  
14. Q R to K B sq; and Black has by far the best of the game.

(f) Mr. Heydebrand remarked, afterwards, that this was lost time.

(g) White is hampered a good deal by his inability to advance the Queen's Pawn, which confines two of his best officers, and compels him to fight with four pieces against six.

(h) Taking the Q R Pawn would have been the height of imprudence. For suppose—

16. Kt takes Kt      Q takes Kt      18. Kt to K 7th (ch)      Kt takes Kt  
17. Kt takes Kt      Q takes Kt      19. R takes K P—and wins.

(i) The most enterprising play of Kt to Q Kt 6th would have led to some highly interesting combinations. Ex. gr.—

17. Kt to Q Kt 6th      Kt takes K R P      19. B takes R (ch)      K takes B  
18. R takes K B P      R takes R      20. Kt takes R      Kt to Q B 5th

This appears to be his best play; K to K B sq would only drive the King into a place of security.

(j) It is difficult to see, in actual play, that this is the only safe move White has. If he play the obvious one of Kt takes Kt, or K to Kt sq, he must lose the game, or, at least, have so bad a position, that he ought to lose. For example—

20. Kt takes Kt      Kt takes Kt      22. R to K B sq (ch), and Black has a capital game.  
21. Q Kt K R P (coup juste) Kt to Q B 4th      So, also, if—

20. K to Kt sq      K to Kt sq      22. Q to K Kt 5th  
21. Kt takes Kt      Q takes Kt      23. Q to K Kt 5th

And again Black has an excellent game; for he now threatens to play P to Q Kt 4th, by which he will be enabled to rescue his Kt, and obtain a terrible attack besides.)

21. Q takes K R P (We see      Q Kt takes K P      22. R to Q 2nd      Kt to K Kt 5th  
no better move for him)      And White must now win the imprisoned Kt, and consequently, the game.

(k) At length, through some dangers and difficulties, White has freed his own men, and for the enemy to abandon the attack. Henceforward he takes and maintains the offensive all through to the catastrophe.

(l) He had taken the Q Pawn, White would have won easily, by playing Q to K B 2nd, &c.

(m) If he had taken Pawn with Pawn, White's answer would have been Kt to K B 5th; and if he had taken Pawn with Rook, then, probably, White would have replied with Q to K 7th.

(n) White might have won by simply exchanging Queens, and playing Rook to Q 6th, but preferred another course.

(o) His best move here was, perhaps, Kt to Q B 4th. But that would not have saved him, as we can easily see; for suppose—

41. Kt to Q B 4th      Q to K Kt 6th (ch)  
42. Q to K Kt 2nd      Q to K R 5th  
43. R to K B 3rd

(If K to R 2nd, then follows Q to her sq, threatening to win the Kt, and also to play Kt to K R 5th, &c.)

43. Kt to K B 5th      44. R takes Kt (best)      R to K Kt 6th  
And White has a Queen against a Rook and Kt.

## MATCH BETWEEN MR. STAUNTON AND MR. HARRWITZ.

(From a Correspondent.)

As this proposed contest has been looked forward to with much interest, it may be well to show briefly how far the negotiations respecting it have proceeded, and why they have been interrupted.

It will be remembered that, at the Manchester meeting last May, Mr. Staunton put forth a general challenge, offering to play a match with any player in the world for £250 aside. To this challenge, for two months, there was no response; when, suddenly, Mr. Harwitz wrote to say that he accepted the challenge, conditionally that the stakes on each side should be £100 only.

Now, as Mr. Harwitz is a player who has never risen above the second rank, and when in his best play, had lost every game he ever played with Mr. S. upon even terms, and had been beaten in a match where Mr. S. gave him the enormous odds of the Pawn and two moves, and, moreover, was at the very moment when he accepted the challenge under engagement to play a match with a competitor of his own calibre, reasonable doubts were entertained as to the bona fide nature of his “acceptance.” Before preparing for the encounter, Mr. S. took the precaution, under these circumstances, of sending to the President of the London Chess-club to ascertain whether that society undertook to find the stakes for Mr. H. From that gentleman's statement, it appeared clear that some members of the club had subscribed the amount required, and that Captain Evans had consented to act on their and Mr. Harwitz's part in arranging the minor preliminaries of the match. Upon this assurance, Mr. S. immediately wrote to his opponent to say that he had deposited £25 in the hands of Mr. Brien, of the St. George's Chess-club, and soon after left England for a short stay on the Continent, with the conviction that everything was settled, and that he must be ready for battle upon the termination of the match between Messrs. Löwenthal and Harwitz. On returning to England, at an early stage of this match, he had an interview with Captain E., and laid before him copies of the correspondence between himself and Mr. H., when Captain E. expressed his opinion that Mr. H. was unquestionably bound to play the match on the terms of the challenge. He stated, however, that Mr. H. was desirous of having those terms modified in some particulars. A short time afterwards Captain E. brought to Mr. S., and to the gentleman who acted as his representative, a draft of the terms upon which Mr. H., who, he said, “considered himself no longer bound to play upon the conditions he had before accepted” now proposed to play. Upon Mr. S. demurring to one point, relative to the limitation of time in moving, Captain E. proposed, “as any restriction as to time was foreign to the spirit of chess,” that the time-clause should be cancelled altogether. “To this,” after a few minutes' consideration and conversation on the subject, Mr. S. consented, and it was believed that every impediment was now removed. This pleasant illusion was dispelled almost immediately; for Captain E., after consulting with his principal, announced that Mr. Harwitz would not agree even to this arrangement. The affair then fell into the hands of the two seconds, Capt. Evans and Mr. Sheppard; and, after much protocolling, in which they appeared to arrive no nearer a satisfactory adjustment, Mr. Sheppard, upon the conclusion of the late match, wrote as follows to Capt. E.:—“As I am actuated by a real desire to bring about this contest, I will not now enter into minutiae nor peril the object in view by reviving useless discussions. We can settle all minor matters when we meet; let us now only concern ourselves with endeavours to display the prowess of the respective warriors. If your principal is only half as willing to play as mine, we shall not have much difficulty. I can assure you that Mr. S. is as fully prepared to enter the lists now, as he was before the termination of the late match. As a proof of this, he authorises me to make the following final proposition:—

“He will play at the time Mr. H. himself proposes, either according to the terms of the challenge already accepted; or he will even consent to play upon the terms you, as Mr. H.'s second, proposed, altogether waiving the question of limiting the time on moves; and in either case, if agreeable to Mr. H.'s supporters, he will double the amount of stakes.”

“If this offer is refused by Mr. Harwitz, it must be obvious to you, as to every body else, that he is determined in every way to evade the contest.”

This seemed a clench, but did not prove so. Captain E. replied by saying he had resigned his appointment as second, and had forwarded the letter to Mr. H. Mr. Harwitz, as might be expected, has made no reply. Mr. Sheppard has since written to the party who represented himself as the holder of Mr. H.'s deposit, demanding the forfeited stakes; and no notice whatever has been taken of his communication. Here the matter rests.

(We have not room for a letter from Mr. Sheppard regarding the above affair, but shall try to give it next week.)



Confining our remarks chiefly to the accommodation latterly provided for Church worship, we must remark that, of 14,077 churches and chapels enumerated as belonging to the Church of England, there were built—

FOREIGN.—Grand Trunk of Canada, 6½; Great Western of Canada

TOWNSHEND.—On the 6th inst., at Chislehurst, the Hon. Annabella Townshend.